



PennState

**PARENTS &**

**FAMILIES**

**GUIDE**

2024–2025

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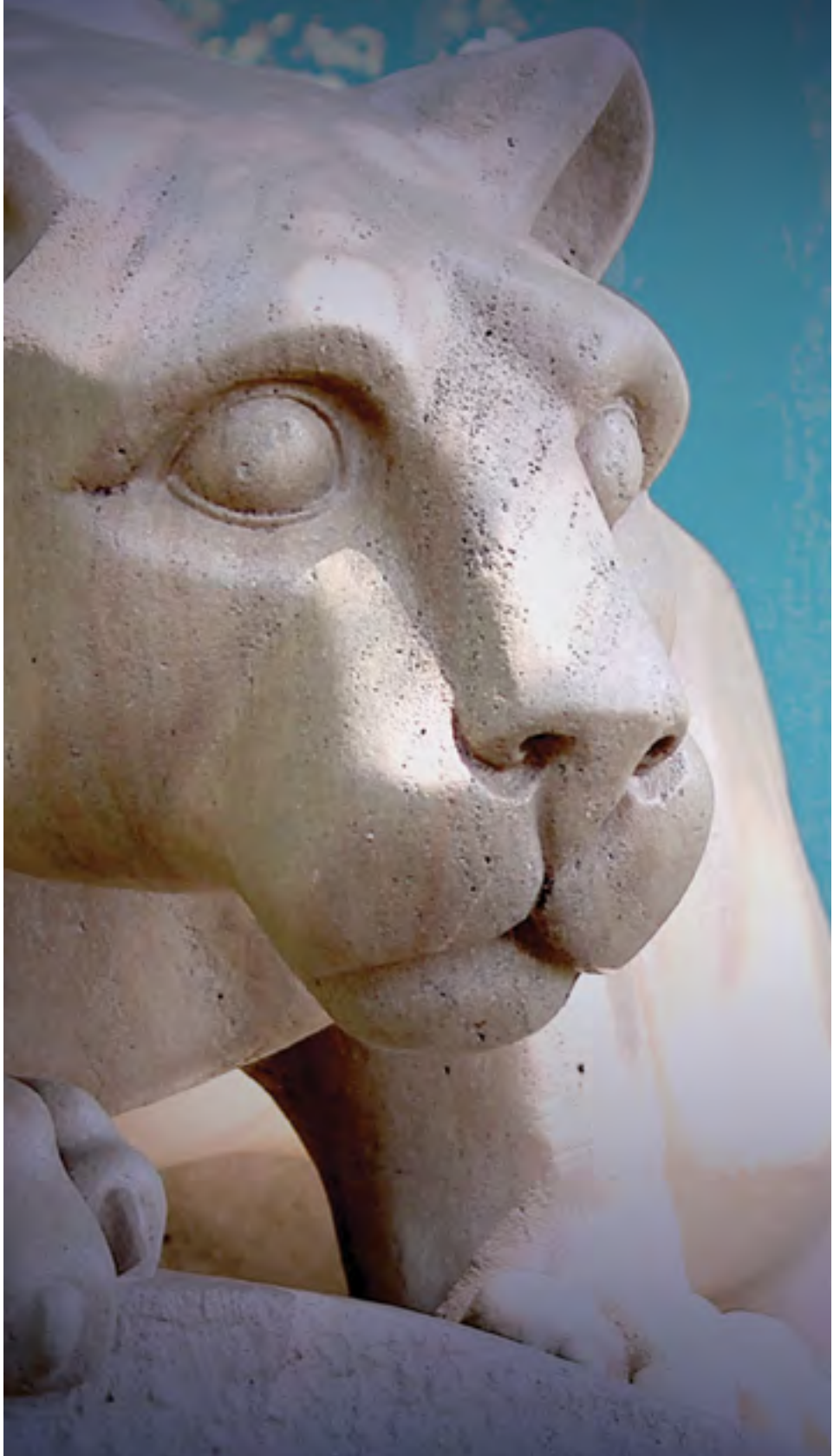
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# PARENT & FAMILY RESOURCES



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# A PENN STATE WELCOME

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Dear Parents & Family Members:

A student's success depends on many things. It depends on a deep commitment and clear sense of purpose, a desire to take responsibility and make good choices, and an openness to learn from mistakes and embrace new challenges. In the most fundamental ways, a student's success depends on the student. It comes from within.

A student's success also depends on the support and encouragement of others. It depends on University programs and services designed and implemented with student success in mind. It depends on the support and love of parents and family members. It depends on you and us and so many others, and it requires our collective willingness, in just the right moment, to simply let go.

We want all Penn State students to have the opportunity to succeed. We want them to experience the excitement of discovery in their academic and personal pursuits, to learn, to grow, to find their life's path and purpose, to take responsibility for themselves and others. And we want them to do so safely and securely, challenged by the experience, but nurtured through it, too.

We cannot achieve that ambition without your direct involvement and contribution. Please participate in as many Parents Program activities and opportunities as time allows. Let us know what we can do for you. Tell us about your experience at Penn State. Help us be the very best we can.

With all of us working together, Penn State will remain among the finest universities in the country, and indeed the world. Together, our students—all of them—will have every chance to succeed. They and we should expect nothing less.

Sincerely,



*Andrea Dowhower*  
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs



*Jeff Adams*  
Interim Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education

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## PENN STATE VALUES

Integrity • Respect  
Responsibility • Discovery  
Excellence • Community

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PennState



### INTEGRITY

We act with integrity and honesty in accordance with the highest academic, professional, and ethical standards.

### RESPECT

We respect and honor the dignity of each person, embrace civil discourse, and foster a diverse and inclusive community.

### RESPONSIBILITY

We act responsibly, and we are accountable for our decisions, actions, and their consequences.

### DISCOVERY

We seek and create new knowledge and understanding, and foster creativity and innovation, for the benefit of our communities, society, and the environment.

### EXCELLENCE

We strive for excellence in all our endeavors as individuals, an institution, and a leader in higher education.

### COMMUNITY

We work together for the betterment of our University, the communities we serve, and the world.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PARENTS PROGRAM

At Penn State, we believe that student success is enhanced when parents and family members engage in an effective working partnership with the University.

Students will experience successes and challenges throughout their time in college. Understanding your new role as a coach or mentor can help your student develop the skills to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

The Parents Program is your resource. We are here to support you by:

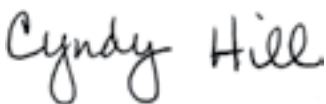
- *Serving as a central resource for information and referrals*
- *Enhancing parent and family involvement opportunities*
- *Providing information about the student experience*
- *Communicating regularly with you*

This Parents and Families Guide is a primary source of information to assist you in supporting your student during their years at Penn State. Inside you will find helpful information about the college transition process; community standards and policies; academic requirements and services; opportunities and resources for student engagement beyond the classroom; and information about important student support services.

In addition, our website provides access to additional information and links to key offices throughout the University. The Parent and Family Experience emails will keep you up to date about resources and happenings on campus.

Our staff is available to help answer your questions, make referrals, and provide timely information to assist you. If you would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities available for parents and family members, we encourage you to visit the Parents Program website or contact our office.

We look forward to partnering with you!



Cynthia Hill, M.Ed.  
Director, Penn State Parents Program

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

> [parents.psu.edu](https://parents.psu.edu)

### Parents Council

The Penn State Parents Council is a representative group of parents and family members who volunteer their time and share their knowledge and experiences. Additionally, the Parents Council acts as an advisory group to help undergraduate parents, families, and students foster a positive and lasting connection to Penn State. The application process will be shared in the fall.

### Parent Ambassadors

Parent Ambassadors serve as volunteers at events and programs at the University Park campus and various off-campus locations. Ambassador opportunities include prospective student events, Parents and Families Weekend, on-campus welcome events, and Student Send-Off events near their hometown. The application process will be shared in the fall.

### Family Ambassadors

Passionate students are encouraged to get involved as Family Ambassadors. Family Ambassadors serve as volunteers to the Parents Program by supporting parents and families, assisting with office tasks, and planning Parents and Families Weekend programming, arrival, and other events. Applications are available in the fall.

### Penn State Parents Fund

The Penn State Parents Fund receives donations from Penn State parents, guardians, and University community members. The Parents Fund supports programs that support students. They include student leadership development programs, a range of services that assists students who are facing food and housing insecurity, wellness resources, and the Student Emergency Fund.

Thanks to the Parents Fund, Penn State students graduate with more than just a degree - they earn pride and confidence that will guide them as they enter the next chapters of their lives. Donate today at [raise.psu.edu](https://raise.psu.edu).

## PARENT & FAMILY WELCOME EVENTS

Participate in welcome events at the beginning of the semester to meet our staff, current parents, and students while getting answers to any lingering questions you may have. Welcome event details will be shared in an email from the Parent and Family Experience.

## STAY CONNECTED

### Parents Program

- **Phone**  
(814) 863.1313
- **Email**  
[parents@psu.edu](mailto:parents@psu.edu)
- **Online**  
[parents.psu.edu](https://parents.psu.edu)
- **Facebook**  
Penn State Parents Program
- **Instagram**  
PennStateParentsProgram
- **Parent & Family Experience Portal**  
(Email Newsletter)  
[psu.campusesp.com](https://psu.campusesp.com)
- **Address**  
219 Bank of America Building  
University Park, PA 16802

### Penn State

- **Online**  
[psu.edu](https://psu.edu)
- **Facebook**  
pennstate
- ✕ **PennState**
- **Instagram**  
pennstate
- **TikTok**  
pennstate
- **Penn State Go App**  
*Google Play or Apple App Store*

### PSU Alert

- ✕ **PSUAlertUP**
- **Facebook**  
pennstate

## SAVE THE DATE

# PARENTS & FAMILIES WEEKEND

Join us for a special weekend designed for you and your family including a variety of campus-wide events and family-friendly programs.

A preliminary schedule of events and event registration will be available in August.

October 18—20, 2024  
[parents.psu.edu](https://parents.psu.edu)



## THE FIRST YEAR

Your student's first year of college is a transition for the entire family. At Penn State, we use the First-Year Learning Outcomes (page 8) to guide our work to support new students in this transition. New Student Orientation will introduce you and your student to the tools and resources that will help to set them up for success.

Parents and family members are a critical part of the support network for students. We hope this guide will serve as a resource to help you navigate the first year and beyond.

### Understanding the First Year

Your student's first year of college may be emotional for both you and your student. Families who understand the transition to college and the cycle of the academic year can better help their student navigate important decisions and challenges.

### The First Weeks: Everything is New

Students are experiencing college life for the first time. They are excited to explore many opportunities and are trying to make connections with other students, staff, and faculty. Students may be:

- *Excited, yet apprehensive*
- *Exploring new freedoms*
- *Learning to manage new responsibilities*
- *Feeling homesick and lonely*
- *Trying to find their place socially*
- *Anxious about new academic challenges*

### Mid-Semester: Reality Check

Classes are in full swing. Early assignments and exams have been returned and students may be surprised (either pleasantly or unpleasantly) by their grades. Students start to realize that friends from the first few weeks may or may not stick around. The roommate honeymoon may end. Students may be:

- *Questioning academic abilities and choices*
- *Adjusting study habits, learning styles, time management and organizational skills*
- *Wondering if they fit in socially*
- *Seeking additional opportunities to become involved*
- *Dealing with the consequences of poor decision-making*
- *Selecting appropriate courses for next semester*
- *Thinking about living arrangements and roommates for the next year*

### End of the First Semester: Information and Stress Overload

Students are sorting out how to approach their first final exam period as the first semester winds down. The realization that academic work in college is much harder than high school has set in for many. For those who have procrastinated or stumbled in the early months, the pressure is now a reality. Students who are working or have joined various student organizations may have increased end-of-semester commitments. Students may be:

- *Anxious about preparing for final exams*
- *Finding it difficult to get along with their roommate*
- *Overwhelmed by their commitments*
- *Questioning their decision to attend college*
- *Excited or apprehensive to head home for break*

### Home for Break: New Expectations

The first long break is welcomed by most students (and families) and they are usually eager to return home. They look forward to the comforts of home, privacy, reconnecting with friends, and some much needed rest. Tensions over curfews and family expectations can happen at this time. Communicating expectations in advance and keeping a sense of humor can help families enjoy this longer visit home.

### Second Semester: A New Beginning

While a new semester is a fresh start, it is also heavily influenced by the experience students had their first semester and over the break. Some students will enjoy being home and reconnecting with their families and friends, which may make it harder to return, while others experience challenges at home that make them excited about being back on campus. Other elements, like first semester grades and confidence in the friendships they established the last term, also influence their excitement or apprehension about the start of the new semester. During their second semester students may be:

- *Feeling a renewed interest in opportunities to make friends*
- *Getting more involved in cocurricular activities*
- *Finding a better balance between academic, cocurricular, and social commitments*
- *Contemplating their academic interests, strengths, and choice of major*
- *Exploring internships and opportunities for summer break*

Adapted from Empowering parents of first-year college students: A guide for success by R. H. Mullendore and L. Banahan (2007) and The happiest kid on campus: A parent's guide to the very best college experience (for you and your child) by H. Cohen (2010).

## PARTNERING WITH PENN STATE

We recognize and appreciate the important role that you have played in the life of your student prior to arriving at Penn State. We want this role to continue by cultivating an effective partnership during your student's college career even as your role changes to that of a coach or mentor.

### Your Student's Responsibility

At Penn State, we expect our students to:

- *Become increasingly responsible for their actions including their academic and social decisions*
- *Take the lead in solving their problems*
- *Abide by community standards (see page 47 for the Code of Conduct)*
- *Explore the educational opportunities available, select a major in which they will succeed and enjoy, and put forth their best efforts in the classroom*
- *Take advantage of the tremendous array of opportunities outside of class by choosing meaningful ways to become active citizens on campus and in the broader community*
- *Embrace opportunities to experience, interact with, and learn from the broad diversity of people in the Penn State community*

### Penn State's Role

Penn State aims to:

- *Be a student-centered research university*
- *Have faculty, staff, and administrators that strive to support our students both in and out of class*
- *Provide the necessary resources and support services to enhance student success*
- *Provide a safe, healthy community for students to live, learn, and grow academically and socially*
- *Take an active role in meeting this goal through general outreach and communication to our parents and family members*

## YOUR ROLE

Many incoming college students see their family members as trusted coaches and sources of support, which is not likely to change when they begin their Penn State career. Students need you to support their growth, development, independence, and to also be a stable force in their ever-changing world.

- **Support Student Autonomy**  
*Young adulthood is a time when your relationship changes from an adult-child relationship to an adult-adult relationship. Support your student's autonomy by actively redefining your relationship, relinquishing unnecessary control, encouraging personal responsibility and problem-solving, and supporting decisions made by your student. When a problem arises 'move like your feet are stuck in molasses' and allow your student time to learn how to fix their problems.*
- **Stay Connected**  
*Expect that your student will not respond to all of your contacts whether by phone/text, email, or even "snail" mail, but know that they appreciate hearing from you. Visit, but not too often and not too soon. Parents and Families Weekend, held October 18–20, 2024, is a great time to reconnect with your student.*
- **Embrace Exploration**  
*Your student is experiencing new viewpoints and perspectives that may challenge prior belief systems. Allow them to explore ideas without being judgmental. Understand that changes in viewpoints, behavior, dress, eating and sleeping habits, and relationships with family members are all to be expected. However, if you suspect that some of these changes may be signs of bigger problems, trust your instincts. Your student may need you to refer them to the appropriate resources described in this guide for help.*
- **Be Knowledgeable about Campus Resources**  
*Explore the resources available in this guide, the Parents Program website, and email newsletters. By acting as a referral source for your student, you can demonstrate that you are interested in your student's life at the University, and at the same time, empower your student to explore resources and solve their problems.*
- **Continue Difficult Conversations**  
*You still have an important influence on your student's behavior. In college, your student will have to make their own decisions about what time to get up in the morning, when to study, when to exercise, which organizations to join, what to eat, whether to drink alcohol, and whether to engage in romantic relationships. Although you cannot force your student to behave as you would want them to, you can create an atmosphere of open communication by listening and sharing family expectations.*
- **Recognize the Challenges**  
*The first year of college can be full of indecision, insecurities, disappointments, and, most of all, mistakes. It's also full of discovery, inspiration, good times, and exciting people. The reality is that there are times in college when your student might experience all the above, which is normal and to be expected.*
- **Welcome Change**  
*Your student will change, and so will you. College and the experiences associated with it can effect changes in social, vocational, and personal behavior. These changes are natural and inevitable. They can also be inspiring or challenging. You can't stop change and you may never understand it, but you can accept it and support your student's decisions. Trust your student and trust the job you have done in getting them to this point.*

Adapted from *Helping your first-year college student succeed: A guide for parents* by R. H. Mullendore and L. Hatch (2000).



## PENN STATE FIRST-YEAR LEARNING OUTCOMES

The First-Year Learning Outcomes were created to improve student success by increasing academic and social integration into the University. The vision that Penn State has for each student is highlighted in these Learning Outcomes. We hope your student has successfully completed these outcomes by the end of their first year.

- *Understand and meet academic expectations; engage in active learning and use effective time management skills to balance academic work with extra-curricular activities.*
- *Learn about the value of higher education to both society and to individuals; appreciate the value of the general education curriculum and the worth of lifelong learning and scholarship.*
- *Be familiar with student services and academic resources on campus; actively use those resources and interact with staff.*
- *Engage with faculty in and out of the classroom.*
- *Interact effectively with peers in social settings, and through educationally purposeful student activities.*
- *Refine short-term and long-term academic goals; learn about career management; establish more specific career goals.*

- *Achieve a higher competency in writing, note-taking, active reading, critical thinking and quantitative reasoning to be able to master college-level work.*
- *Expand knowledge of human diversity and cultural competence; effectively interact with others.*
- *Engage in activities leading to improved personal health and fitness; learn about making responsible decisions in a college environment.*
- *Be a positive and contributing member of the Penn State community; engage in community service activities; develop an understanding of sustainability and how to incorporate sustainable behaviors in daily activities.*

In addition to these Learning Outcomes, students will work towards achieving Penn State's General Education Learning Objectives. Learn more at [gened.psu.edu/learning-objectives](https://gened.psu.edu/learning-objectives).

Approved by: The Pennsylvania State University First Year Experience Committee, April 2005.



# KEY DATES 2024—2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

	Summer Session II 2024	Fall 2024	Spring 2025
Tuition Bill Arrives <i>(notification sent to student's Penn State email account)</i>	Begins Early May  Billing for LEAP students begins in June	Begins Early August	Begins Early January
New Student Arrival	Visit <a href="https://arrival.psu.edu">arrival.psu.edu</a> for more information		
Welcome Week	Visit <a href="https://welcomeweek.psu.edu">welcomeweek.psu.edu</a> for a complete list of events		
Classes Begin	June 26	August 26	January 13
Drop Period	June 26 – 28 at 11:59 p.m. ET	August 26 – 31 at 11:59 p.m. ET	January 13 – 18 at 11:59 p.m. ET
Add Period	June 26 – 29 at 11:59 p.m. ET	August 26 – September 1 at 11:59 p.m. ET	January 13 – 19 at 11:59 p.m. ET
Holiday	July 4: No Classes <b>Independence Day</b>	September 4: No Classes <b>Labor Day</b>	January 20: No Classes <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>
Parents & Families Weekend	N/A	October 18 – 20	N/A
Residence Halls Close/Open	Visit <a href="https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/important-dates">liveon.psu.edu/university-park/important-dates</a>		
Semester Break	N/A	November 24 – 30: No Classes <b>Fall Break</b>	March 9 – 15: No Classes <b>Spring Break</b>
Late Drop Ends	July 29 at 11:59 p.m. ET	November 15 at 11:59 p.m. ET	April 11 at 11:59 p.m. ET
Withdrawal Deadline	August 7 at 5:00 p.m. ET	December 13 at 5:00 p.m. ET	May 2 at 5:00 p.m. ET
Classes End	August 7	December 13	May 2
Study Day(s)	August 8	December 14 – 15	May 3 – 4
Final Exams	August 9	December 16 – 20	May 5 – 9
Residence Halls Close/Open	Visit <a href="https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/important-dates">liveon.psu.edu/university-park/important-dates</a>		
Commencement	August 10	December 22	May 9 – 11



# NEW STUDENT ARRIVAL CHECKLIST FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

## Reminders for Your Student

### Paying the Tuition Bill (page 22)

- All students must sign a Financial Responsibility Agreement (FRA) in LionPATH prior to enrolling for classes each semester
- If you plan to view/pay your student's tuition bill, your student needs to grant you Authorized Payer Access in LionPATH
- The student and any authorized payers on the student account receive an email when tuition statements are ready (payments are typically due on the 22nd of the month)
- To plan for future semesters, please visit [tuition.psu.edu](https://tuition.psu.edu) (tuition rates for the academic year are set in mid-July)

### Managing Healthcare Info (page 42)

- Students must submit proof of immunization to University Health Services prior to orientation, visit [studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/medical-services/immunizations](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/medical-services/immunizations)
- Students must submit proof of adequate insurance in LionPATH
- Students without health insurance can purchase the Penn State Student Health Insurance Plan
- Your student should know their current and maintenance prescription medications (consider transferring any prescriptions to University Health Services Pharmacy) (page 41)
- Make a copy of any insurance and prescription cards for your student to take to school
- Review with your student how to make an appointment with a health care provider, including University Health Services, and the importance of checking messages through a provider's secure portal

### Preparing for the Semester

Remind your student to do the following in advance to make their first few days at Penn State go smoothly.

- View the academic calendar at [registrar.psu.edu/academic-calendars](https://registrar.psu.edu/academic-calendars)
- View room assignment and roommate information at [eliving.psu.edu](https://eliving.psu.edu) (page 33)
- Contact their roommate to make introductions and discuss what to bring
- Map out the location of classes at [map.psu.edu](https://map.psu.edu)
- Explore purchasing or renting textbooks (can be ordered online, bundled, and picked up) through the Penn State Bookstore at [psu.bncollege.com](https://psu.bncollege.com)
- Review housing check-in schedule and location, packing checklists, and helpful tips at [arrival.psu.edu](https://arrival.psu.edu)
- Add funds to the LionCash account at [idcard.psu.edu](https://idcard.psu.edu) (page 25)
- Add cell phone numbers to the PSU Alert system at [psualert.psu.edu](https://psualert.psu.edu) to receive text and/or voice alerts
- If desired, grant parent Delegated Access in LionPATH to view class schedule, grades, housing and meal plan, etc. (page 24)

## Reminders for Parents and Families

### Connecting with the Penn State Parents (page 4)

- Sign up to receive emails from the Parent & Family Experience portal at [psu.campusesp.com](https://psu.campusesp.com)
- Participate in the Parent & Family Connections summer webinar series to learn more about student resources at [parents.psu.edu](https://parents.psu.edu)
- Consider volunteering for the Parents Program at [parents.psu.edu/get-involved](https://parents.psu.edu/get-involved)
- Connect with Penn State and the Parents Program on Facebook and Instagram

### Parents & Families Weekend: October 18–20, 2024

- Save the date and explore details at [parents.psu.edu](https://parents.psu.edu)
- Make travel and lodging arrangements early

### General Topics for Discussion

- Encourage your student to participate in Welcome Week activities at [welcomeweek.psu.edu](https://welcomeweek.psu.edu)
- Discuss campus safety and decisions regarding alcohol and drug use (page 48)
- Discuss time management, study skills, and mutual expectations for staying in touch
- Talk about and plan how your student will finance their education
- Provide reminder of life skills (including doing laundry, managing bank account, eating well, etc.)
- Remind your student to check their Penn State email account frequently

## A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

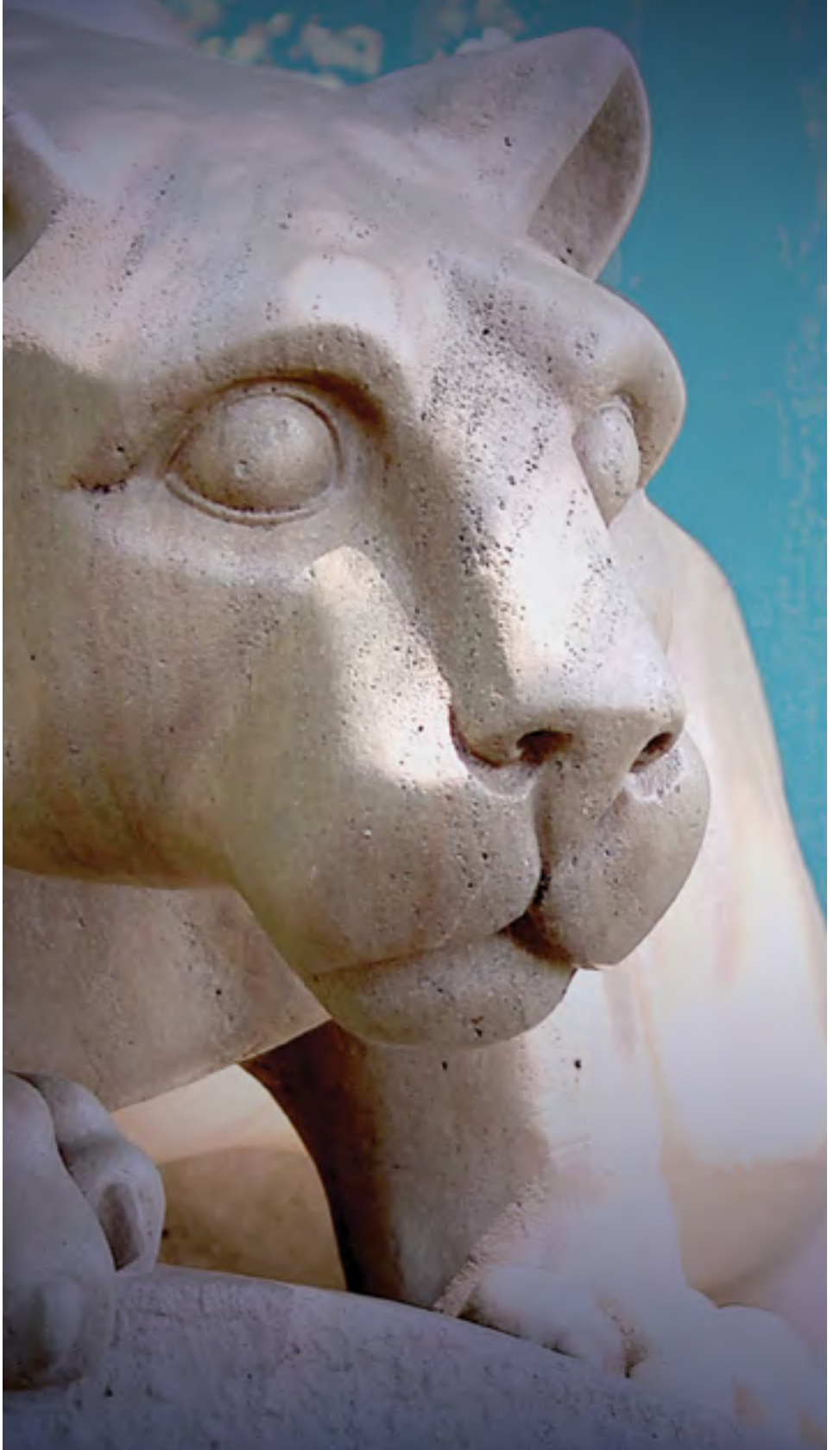
> If you're unsure of who to contact, call or email the Parents Program at (814) 863.1313 or [parents@psu.edu](mailto:parents@psu.edu)

As one of your student's most trusted sources of support, they may contact you when they hit a bump in the road. They may tell you about a grade, a roommate issue, a challenging class, or more. Don't try and solve their problem. It is important for students to advocate for their own needs and learn how to solve their own problems. If your student shares an issue, you should listen, encourage problem solving, and support their decision (even if you don't agree).

Issue	Suggested Parent/Family Response	Resources for Students
Academic Integrity	If academic integrity is in question, your student may receive a low or failing grade. They may also receive an administrative sanction from the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response. Your student should talk with an instructor about research expectations and source documentation preferences and resources.	Faculty, Academic Adviser and/or Academic College (page 16), Student Accountability and Conflict Response (page 46), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30)
Academic Problems	Is your student attending class regularly? Encourage your student to meet with their professor and/or academic adviser to discuss grades, attendance, test preparation, or other related issues. Penn State Learning offers tutoring and guided study groups to students both virtually and in-person.	Faculty, Academic Adviser and/or Academic College (page 16), Penn State Learning (page 19), Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (page 42)
Alcohol/ Substance Abuse	Share your views on underage drinking, excessive alcohol use, and illegal drug use. Talk with your student about alcohol and substance use during college and how it might affect their health, safety, and academics. Encourage your student to make an appointment with Health Promotion and Wellness or CAPS, or contact the Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC).	Health Promotion and Wellness (page 43), Marijuana Intervention Program (page 43), BASICS alcohol education service, (page 43), Collegiate Recovery Community (page 29), CAPS (page 42)
Anxiety/Stress	Anxiety and stress are expected responses to the demands of college that students may express directly or indirectly. Changes in your student's functioning that may suggest stress or anxiety include, but are not limited to, feeling they do not have enough time to complete tasks, feeling overwhelmed, sleep changes, and ongoing physical ailments (especially chest or stomach upset). If needed, you can recommend that they seek support from easily accessible resources on campus, such as physical fitness, virtual self-help platforms, self-care workshops, drop-in support groups, individual sessions with a health educator, or, if necessary, counseling services.	Health Promotion and Wellness (page 43), Campus Recreation (page 30), Residence Life (page 35), University Health Services (page 39), CAPS (page 42)
Bias, Harassment, and/or Discrimination	If your student shares an incident that may be motivated by bias, they should report it using the online form available at <a href="https://equity.psu.edu/report-bias">equity.psu.edu/report-bias</a> . Students can connect with a variety of resources for support.	Educational Equity (page 18), Student Disability Resources (page 19), Multicultural Resource Center (page 18), Office of Veterans Programs (page 18), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30), CAPS (page 42), University Police (page 48), Student Affairs Diversity and Inclusion Offices: Paul Robeson Cultural Center, Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, Gender Equity Center, Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development (page 29)
Chosen Name Process	To update personal identity information with Penn State, visit <a href="https://accounts.psu.edu">accounts.psu.edu</a> . Students are able to access their personal information from the Account tile. They will be able to designate a chosen name, gender identity, and pronouns. For legal name changes students can connect with Student Legal Services.	Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (page 29), Gender Equity Center (page 29), Student Legal Services (page 30)
Disabilities	Encourage your student to be proactive and contact Student Disability Resources. Remind them to connect with the office if they have any questions about their accommodations and to use the student community space for study areas, social opportunities, and connections to campus resources.	Student Disability Resources (page 19), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30), CAPS (page 42)
Dropping a Class	Remind your student to check the drop deadline date and consult with their academic adviser. Discourage dropping a class until every other possibility is exhausted. Dropping a class can impact your student's financial aid and other opportunities such as joining a fraternity or sorority. Students may not receive a tuition refund if they drop classes after the semester starts. International students should check with the ISSA office as there are potential visa and/or other impacts when dropping a class.	Faculty, Academic Adviser (page 16), Registrar (page 23), Student Aid (page 22), LionPATH Delegated Access (page 24), Bursar (page 21), CAPS (page 42), Penn State Global – International Student and Scholar Advising (ISSA) (page 19)
Dropping a Class (Trauma Drop)	If your student is the victim of a crime that causes difficulty with grades, the student may be able to retroactively withdrawal from a semester of classes without penalty to their GPA.	Gender Equity Center (page 29), Student Care and Advocacy (page 29)
Faculty Issues	Encourage your student to talk with their professors to discuss issues. If there is no resolution, they should consult with their academic adviser or contact the academic department.	Faculty, Academic Adviser, and/or Academic College (page 16), CAPS (page 42), Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development (page 29)

Issue	Suggested Parent/Family Response	Resources for Students
Family Emergency	Keep your student informed about any serious family illnesses, if possible. Make sure your student is not alone when receiving bad news. A roommate or close friend can help. Encourage your student to seek help if they are struggling to function and/or feeling distressed.	Student Care and Advocacy (page 30), CAPS (page 42), Residence Life (page 35)
Homesick	Homesickness is normal. Prepare your student before school starts; schedule a time when they will visit home or when you will visit campus; encourage out-of-class activities; and encourage your student to seek help if necessary. Limit home visits during the first six weeks to facilitate and support the college transition. Let your student know that the feelings will subside as they feel more and more connected to people, classes, and groups on campus.	Resident Assistant and/or Residence Life (page 35), Student Leadership and Involvement (page 32), Campus Recreation (page 30), Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development (page 29), CAPS (page 42)
Lack of Direction	Students may struggle with finding their path both in and out of the classroom. Should your student be looking for opportunities or direction, encourage them to reach out to these resources.	Academic Adviser (page 16), Career Services (page 30), Resident Assistant and/or Residence Life (page 35), Student Engagement Network (page 31), Student Leadership and Involvement (page 32)
Lost id+ Card	Students can deactivate their id+ card or mobile credential online and purchase a new id+ card for a small fee. Students can also request a loaner key or purchase a temporary ID to access their building and hall.	id+ Office (page 25), Housing Commons Desk (page 33)
Misconduct/Legal Issues	When a student participates in behaviors that may violate the Student Code of Conduct and/or local, state, or federal law, there may be consequences through both the University and local law enforcement. As you provide support to your student through these processes, look at the Student Accountability and Conflict Response and Student Legal Services websites. For situations which occur in the residence halls, Residence Life may be an appropriate resource. Respondent Support in Student Care and Advocacy can provide support as your student goes through the investigative process.	Student Accountability and Conflict Response (page 46), Student Legal Services (Legal Issues) (page 30), Residence Life (page 35), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30), CAPS (page 42)
Money Issues	Discuss money issues, including budgets, and college funding sources, before your student leaves home. Does your student have their own bank account? Who is paying the bills? Has your student granted you Authorized Payer Access and Delegated Access to view the student account and view/pay the tuition bill?	Sokolov-Miller Financial and Life Skills Center (page 21), Bursar (page 21), Student Aid (page 22), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30)
Reporting a Crime	If a student believes they are the victim of or witness a crime, there are multiple ways to report the crime to the police. For emergencies that require immediate assistance, always call 911. To report a crime anonymously that does not require immediate assistance, go to <a href="http://police.psu.edu">police.psu.edu</a> and click on Report a Crime.	University Police, <a href="http://police.psu.edu">police.psu.edu</a> (page 48), Call 911 (emergencies), (814) 863-1111 (non-emergencies)
Roommate Conflicts	The first person your student should talk to is their roommate. Encourage your student to take time to work through conflicts; discuss the educational value of learning to get along with someone who is different; and encourage open communication.	Resident Assistant and/or Residence Life (page 35); Off-Campus Student Support (page 37), Student Accountability and Conflict Response (page 45), CAPS (page 42)
Safety Issues	The Penn State community is a safe area. The most frequently reported crimes are theft-of-opportunity and alcohol-related crimes. Encourage your student to lock their doors, to not leave their laptops and phones unattended, and to walk in groups at night.	Resident Assistant and/or Residence Life (page 35), University Police and Safe Walk (page 48), Student Affairs Diversity and Inclusion Offices (page 29) Confidential Resources: CAPS (page 42), Gender Equity Center (page 29), Ride Smart by Lyft (page 53)
Sexual Misconduct, Dating Violence, Harassment, or Assault	If your student is a victim of sexual misconduct, dating violence, harassment, or assault, listen to them and let them share what they feel comfortable sharing. They can seek confidential medical and emotional support on campus. Encourage your student to report the incident to the Office of Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Response. Victims can also report the crime to University Police by calling 911, (814) 863-1111 or online at <a href="http://police.psu.edu">police.psu.edu</a> .	Office for Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Response (page 47), Residence Life (page 35), University Police (page 48), Student Accountability and Conflict Response (page 46), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30)  Confidential Resources: CAPS (page 42), Gender Equity Center (page 29), Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (page 29)
Student Illness	Your student should visit University Health Services or call the 24/7 nurse advice line. Same day appointments are typically available for acute issues, but students should call first thing in the morning to schedule. Reassure your student that antibiotics are not always necessary and won't be given unless there is evidence of a bacterial infection. In the event of an emergency, they should go to the local emergency room at Mount Nittany Medical Center.	University Health Services (page 39), Mount Nittany Medical Center (page 39), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30)
Talk of Transferring	It is not uncommon for students to talk about transferring especially during the first year. Be patient, listen, and help them evaluate their options.	Academic Adviser (page 16), Registrar (page 23)
Unhappy/Lonely/ Uncertainty about the College Experience	Some students may struggle to fit in at the beginning: this is normal. Try to get to the reason for their unhappiness or uncertainty. Is it social or academic? Encourage your student to get involved outside of class, seek help, or even just keeping their door open (literally) to meet other students. Send a care package from home. Nothing makes a friend faster than a box of homemade cookies to share.	Resident Assistant and/or Residence Life (page 35), Student Engagement Network (page 31), Student Leadership and Involvement (page 31), Student Affairs Diversity and Inclusion Offices (page 29), CAPS (page 42), Student Care and Advocacy (page 30)

# ACADEMIC RESOURCES & SUPPORT



- > Academic Colleges
- > Orientation
- > The Penn State Degree
- > Grades and GPA-Equivalents
- > General Education Requirements
- > Academic Advising
- > Resources

# ACADEMIC COLLEGES

Penn State grants degrees in majors housed within academic colleges. University Park campus is home to twelve of Penn State's academic colleges. Students should consider both the overall perspective of the academic college as well as a particular major when making decisions about academic direction. All first-year students are enrolled in an academic college or in the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

## College of Agricultural Sciences

> [agsci.psu.edu](http://agsci.psu.edu)

The College of Agricultural Sciences applies life sciences and business principles to managing the environment and its resources.

## College of Arts and Architecture

> [artsandarchitecture.psu.edu](http://artsandarchitecture.psu.edu)

The College of Arts and Architecture refines students' creative talents and commitment to performance, design, and the visual arts.

## Smeal College of Business

> [smeal.psu.edu](http://smeal.psu.edu)

The Smeal College of Business focuses on gathering, analyzing, and processing information for decision-making in the business world.

## Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications

> [bellisario.psu.edu](http://bellisario.psu.edu)

The Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications focuses on mass media's functions, responsibilities, changes, and impact on society.

## Division of Undergraduate Studies

> [dus.psu.edu](http://dus.psu.edu)

The Division of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) enrolls and advises students who are exploring majors in multiple academic colleges. DUS facilitates student exploration, engagement, and academic success by helping students identify an academic college and major. DUS does not grant degrees.

## College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

> [ems.psu.edu](http://ems.psu.edu)

The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences focuses on the earth, the environment, and energy resources through the study of the earth sciences.

## College of Education

> [ed.psu.edu](http://ed.psu.edu)

The College of Education focuses on learning processes and challenges and develops knowledge and skills in a content area to teach and counsel others.

## College of Engineering

> [enr.psu.edu](http://enr.psu.edu)

The College of Engineering focuses on the application of mathematical and physical science principles to solve technical and societal problems.

## College of Health and Human Development

> [hhd.psu.edu](http://hhd.psu.edu)

The College of Health and Human Development seeks to improve human health and well-being through the study of science, business, and social and psychological sciences.

## College of Information Sciences and Technology

> [ist.psu.edu](http://ist.psu.edu)

The College of Information Sciences and Technology applies technology and teamwork principles to solving problems.

## College of the Liberal Arts

> [la.psu.edu](http://la.psu.edu)

The College of the Liberal Arts develops knowledge in the social sciences, humanities, and languages, and builds critical thinking, complex reasoning, communications, and writing skills.

## Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

> [nursing.psu.edu](http://nursing.psu.edu)

The Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing develops professional and technical skills in health care.

## Eberly College of Science

> [science.psu.edu](http://science.psu.edu)

The Eberly College of Science develops knowledge in the mathematical, physical, and life sciences as well as skills in scientific research.

## Schreyer Honors College

> (814) 863.2635

> [shc.psu.edu](http://shc.psu.edu)

Current Penn State students can apply for admission to the Schreyer Honors College, which is consistently ranked as one of the nation's top public honors colleges and is widely recognized as one of the foremost undergraduate programs in the United States. The honors experience at Penn State provides students with support and opportunities to explore their passions and individualize their academic journey. Scholars benefit from small class sizes, honors courses taught by leading faculty, and grants and scholarships that assist with travel, research, and internships. Scholars also benefit from dedicated career services and mentoring connections with Penn State alumni across a spectrum of professions.



## ORIENTATION

### Student Orientation and Transition Programs

- > (814) 865.4178
- > [orientation.psu.edu](https://orientation.psu.edu)

Student Orientation and Transition Programs (SOTP) provides programming for new and continuing Penn Staters. These programs also support the parents and families of new students. SOTP focuses on facilitating successful academic, social, and personal transitions to Penn State. The office does this through programs such as:

- *Change-of-Campus Orientation*
- *New Student Orientation (NSO)*
- *Transfer Student Orientation*
- *Welcome Week*

Current students serve as members of the Orientation Team. SOTP staff supports new students and their families at each step of their transition to Penn State.

The host of my NSO program is \_\_\_\_\_

and their email address is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_@psu.edu

### ALEKS Math Assessment

- > [orientation.psu.edu/testing](https://orientation.psu.edu/testing)

The ALEKS Math Assessment evaluates a student's readiness to take college-level math and science courses. Since these courses are demanding, students need to begin in the course most likely to lead to success. Students will not be permitted to take a course unless they have demonstrated readiness – either through the ALEKS Math Assessment or by completing high school calculus. Students required to complete ALEKS will do so before attending New Student Orientation. Students wishing to retake ALEKS to improve their score may do so by using the learning modules within ALEKS. Students may retake the assessment up to two more times after using the learning modules (for a total of three attempts).

Students who have completed high school calculus but are concerned about their readiness to succeed in college-level mathematics and science courses are encouraged to take the ALEKS Math Assessment. They can use the additional information to make informed decisions in consultation with an academic adviser.

## THE PENN STATE DEGREE

The Penn State undergraduate degree includes General Education, major degree requirements, and other academic experiences such as minors, internships, and/or undergraduate research. All three components together help students develop a solid foundation upon which they build a breadth of skills as well as the depth of knowledge in a specific content area.

### General Education Requirements

- > [gened.psu.edu](https://gened.psu.edu)

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts.

- See page 15 for the *General Education Requirements chart*

### Entrance to Major

- > [bulletins.psu.edu](https://bulletins.psu.edu)

There are more than 275 majors offered at Penn State. Most students will declare a major in their second year. Most majors at Penn State require a minimum cumulative grade-point average (CGPA) of 2.00 and third-semester standing for entrance. Some majors have additional requirements for entrance such as a higher GPA, completion of specific courses, or demonstration of a special talent. A few majors have more applicants than can be accommodated because of space, faculty, or other resource limitations and are under administrative enrollment controls.

### Administrative Enrollment Controls

- > [bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/administrative-enrollment-controls](https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/administrative-enrollment-controls)

To be eligible for entrance to majors with administrative enrollment controls, students must be enrolled in the college offering the major or in the Division of Undergraduate Studies, be within a designated credit window, have completed the required prerequisite courses, and have the minimum CGPA required for the intended major. Additional requirements may also apply. Students are strongly encouraged to work closely with an academic adviser and to review the specific entrance criteria for intended majors at [bulletins.psu.edu](https://bulletins.psu.edu).

- > Policy P-5: Administrative Enrollment Controls for Undergraduate Majors can be viewed by searching P-5 at [undergrad.psu.edu/aappm](https://undergrad.psu.edu/aappm).

### Major Requirements

- > [bulletins.psu.edu](https://bulletins.psu.edu)

Requirements differ for each major and in each academic college. Generally, major requirements include prescribed courses that all students in the major take, additional courses that all students choose from a select list, and supporting courses the students choose based on individual interests and goals. Students should work with an academic adviser to clearly understand the specific requirements of majors of interest. General Education requirements may be partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. In addition, Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degree requirements may differ. Students are encouraged to work with an academic adviser to identify which degree best meets their needs.

### Other Requirements

Depending on the college and major, a degree program may also include world language proficiency, internship experience, human diversity courses, and/or electives.

## Dean's List

- > [undergrad.psu.edu/aappm](https://undergrad.psu.edu/aappm)

In recognition of academic excellence, selected students are named to the Dean's List (policy G8) each semester.

- *Undergraduate students only (includes nondegree, degree-seeking provisional and degree)*
- *Credit load requirement*
- *Semester GPA of 3.50 or higher*
- *Satisfactory/unsatisfactory, and audit courses are not included in the determination of GPA or credit load*

Dean's List notation will appear on the student's grade report and on the student's academic record.

# GRADES AND GRADE-POINT EQUIVALENTS

Quality of Performance	Grade	GPA Equivalent
Excellent: Exceptional Achievement	A	4.00
	A-	3.67
Good: Extensive Achievement	B+	3.33
	B	3.00
	B-	2.67
Satisfactory: Acceptable Achievement	C+	2.33
	C	2.00
Poor: Minimal Achievement	D	1.00
Failure: Inadequate Achievement	F	0.00
Academic Dishonesty	XF	0.00

## Items to Know

- *SGPA = Semester Grade-Point Average*
- *CGPA = Cumulative Grade-Point Average*
- *Dean's List = 3.50 SGPA*
- *Minimum Acceptable = 2.00 CGPA*

## Minimal competitive CGPA at application:

- *Undergraduate Internships = 3.00*
- *Medical School = 3.50*
- *Law School = 3.33*

For more information about medical school or other health professions contact the Eberly College of Science at [science.psu.edu/premed](http://science.psu.edu/premed).

For more information about law school contact the Division of Undergraduate Studies at [dus.psu.edu/prelaw](http://dus.psu.edu/prelaw).

# GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

> [genedplan.psu.edu](http://genedplan.psu.edu)

Foundations: Build a basis of effective communication and quantitative literacy	
Credits	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 units of Quantification (GQ)</li> <li>• 9 units of Writing and Speaking (GWS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C or better required</li> <li>• Single domain courses only (no Inter-domain)</li> </ul>
Breadth: Practice applying a specific way of constructing knowledge to examine a topic	
Credits	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 units of Arts (GA)</li> <li>• 3 units of Humanities (GH)</li> <li>• 3 units of Natural Sciences (GN)</li> <li>• 3 units of Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS)</li> <li>• 3 units of Health and Wellness (GHW)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single domain courses only (no Inter-domain)</li> <li>• Students choose courses outside their initial major prefix for GA, GN, GH, GS</li> </ul> <p>Example: ECON major may not select ECON courses; does not apply to GHW</p>
Integrative Studies: Practice synthesizing knowledge from different perspectives to examine a topic	
Credits	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 units of Integrative Studies: Inter-domain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select any two Inter-domain courses that are not used for major program requirements</li> </ul>
Exploration: Follow intellectual curiosity to deepen or widen learning	
Credits	Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 units of additional GA, GH, GN, GS, and Inter-domain courses and up to 3 units of World Language. Must include 3 units of GN course which may be Inter-domain.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students choose courses outside their initial major prefix for GA, GN, GH, GS, and Inter-domain</li> <li>• This category may be reduced to reflect courses prescribed by major programs. See details of intended major.</li> <li>• World Language course beyond the student's degree program requirements or minimally at the 12th credit level</li> </ul> <p>Example: SPAN 3</p>



## ACADEMIC ADVISING

> [advising.psu.edu](https://advising.psu.edu)

Penn State students receive academic advising from primary-role and/or faculty advisers. Students can find their assigned adviser's contact information in Starfish, the University's online advising platform, at [starfish.psu.edu](https://starfish.psu.edu).

An academic adviser will be assigned between the student's orientation and the start of classes. If a student does not yet have an assigned adviser, they should contact the advising center for the college in which they are enrolled for advising-related questions.

Academic adviser relationships at Penn State are initiated by students. Students are encouraged to meet with their adviser at least once a semester and as often as needed to successfully plan and manage their goals. Students are encouraged to build a relationship with their assigned adviser to help them be intentional about the educational opportunities available.

Academic advisers are prepared to:

- *Help students identify and achieve academic goals*
- *Promote intellectual discovery*
- *Encourage students to engage in both in- and out-of-class educational opportunities*
- *Encourage students to become self-directed learners and decision makers*

### Academic Integrity

Penn State expects students to pursue their academics in an honest and ethical manner. The University takes violations of academic integrity very seriously. Please refer to page 47 for more information.

### Contacting Instructors

Students are expected to contact instructors if they have questions or concerns about course content, policies, or academic performance. College instructors are available during their office hours or by appointment. Office hours should be listed on the course syllabus (an outline of the course content, expectations, and grading basis). Family members should not contact instructors or academic advisers directly.

### Syllabus

A syllabus is a document that summarizes course expectations and should be shared by the instructor on or before the first day of class. In addition to describing the course and listing goals and objectives, syllabi include information about course grading, exams, attendance expectations and policies, course instructors, and required materials for the class. The syllabus should also state information related to instructions for campus closures, academic integrity, procedures for adjustments identified by the Office of Student Disability Resources, educational equity concerns, and Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Students are responsible for reading and understanding the syllabus for each class. Any questions a student has regarding the syllabus should be asked early in the semester so that they have a clear understanding of what is expected in the course by the faculty member. Complete information on the Senate Policy on Syllabi can be found in Senate Policy 43-00 at [policy.psu.edu](https://policy.psu.edu).

### Transferring Credit to Penn State

A student who does advanced work in a secondary school may earn credit through the Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) exams. A-Level exams completed by international students may also be considered for credit. Penn State students may also transfer credits from courses taken at another higher education institution to meet degree requirements.

The online Transfer Credit Tool can be used to search for courses at other institutions. Credit can also be awarded for non-academic training through prior learning assessment. Visit [admissions.psu.edu/info/future/transfer/credit](https://admissions.psu.edu/info/future/transfer/credit).

When awarded, all transfer credits are recorded on the student's transcript, but no grade is recorded, and the student's grade-point average is not affected. Students should speak with a college adviser regarding the ability to transfer course credit toward their intended degree. Additionally, because there is a lower- and upper-division tuition differential, students should contact the Office of the Bursar (page 21) for help in determining the potential impact of transfer credits on their tuition.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTERS

### College of Agricultural Sciences

- > 101 Ag Admin Building
- > (814) 865.7521

### College of Arts and Architecture

- > 104 Borland Building
- > (814) 865.9523

### Smeal College of Business

- > 202 Business Building
- > (814) 863.1947

### Donald P. Bellisario College of Communications

- > 204 Carnegie Building
- > (814) 865.1503

### Division of Undergraduate Studies

- > Grange Building Lobby
- > (814) 865.7576

### College of Earth and Mineral Sciences

- > 14 Deike Building
- > (814) 863.2751

### College of Education

- > 228 Chambers Building
- > (814) 865.0488

### College of Engineering

- > 208 Hammond Building
- > (814) 863.1033

### College of Health and Human Development

- > 5 Henderson Building
- > (814) 865.2156

### College of Information Sciences and Technology

- > E103 Westgate Building
- > (814) 865.8947

### College of the Liberal Arts

- > Find advisers at [la.psu.edu](https://la.psu.edu)
- > (814) 865.2545

### Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing

- > 210 Nursing Sciences Building
- > (814) 863.2229

### Eberly College of Science

- > 225B Ritenour Building
- > (814) 863.3889

### Health Professions Advising

- > 225B Ritenour Building
- > (814) 863.3889

### Pre-Law Advising

- > Grange Building Lobby
- > (814) 865.7576



LIBERAL AND PRACTICAL EDUCATION  
OF LIBERAL AND PRACTICAL EDUCATION  
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# ACADEMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

## Multicultural Resource Center

- > 220 Grange Building
- > (814) 865.1773
- > [equity.psu.edu/mrc](http://equity.psu.edu/mrc)

The Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) provides individual college counseling and educational services for undergraduate students who self-identify as African/Black American, Hispanic/Latinx American, Asian Pacific Islander Desi American, or American Indian. MRC counselors work with students on a variety of topics involving University policies and procedures, financial aid concerns, tutoring referrals, strategies for academic success, and career matters, to assist them in attaining their educational goals

## Office for Educational Equity

- > 814-865-5906
- > [equity.psu.edu/mrc](http://equity.psu.edu/mrc)

The Office for Educational Equity serves as a catalyst and advocate for Penn State's culture of equity, respect, and belonging initiatives. Educational Equity's vision is a community that is an inclusive and welcoming environment for all.

## Office for Summer Session

- > [summersession.psu.edu](http://summersession.psu.edu)

The Office for Summer Session promotes academic progress through the promotion of summer courses and programs. The office oversees the Learning Edge Academic Program (LEAP) – a summer bridge program that helps new first-year students transition to the university; the Student Transitional Experiences Program (STEP) – a summer program for change-of-campus students to help ease the transition to the University Park campus; and oversees the Summer Success Scholarship, which provides funding to students with financial need who have fallen behind and would benefit from summer courses to get caught up. Each summer, the office hires around forty undergraduate students to serve as peer-mentors in the LEAP program. The mentor position provides an opportunity for undergraduates to develop leadership, communication, and organizational skills and gives them an outlet to help new Penn State students connect with each other and the university.

## Office of Veterans Programs

- > 138 Ritenour Building
- > (814) 863.0465
- > [equity.psu.edu/veterans](http://equity.psu.edu/veterans)

The Penn State Office of Veterans Programs (OVP) provides accurate and expedient certification of veterans education benefits as well as comprehensive counseling, programming, outreach, advocacy, and support to all military-affiliated students. OVP also provides part time employment to students using VA Educational Benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs work-study program, offers a 3-credit Veterans First-Year Seminar class, as well as peer mentoring, tutoring, and other services to help students ensure continuity and success throughout their Penn State experience.

## Penn State Bookstore

- > HUB-Robeson Center
- > (814) 863.0205
- > [psu.bncollege.com](http://psu.bncollege.com)

The Penn State Bookstore provides textbooks, school supplies, and technology for all courses offered by Penn State. In addition, the bookstore has an extensive selection of school spirit clothing and gifts, a newly renovated Tech Store that is an Apple Authorized location, a Graduation Zone, and a student study space. Our store also offers an extensive general book department as well as a Barnes and Noble Cafe that proudly serves Starbucks coffee.

## Penn State Global

- > 410 Boucke Building
- > (814) 865.7681
- > [global.psu.edu](http://global.psu.edu)

Penn State Global oversees many of Penn State's international activities. Penn State Global is leading Penn State's transformation into a truly global University as the office supports global learning, success, and leadership for all of our Penn State communities.

Penn State Global offers:

- *Approximately 300 programs in 50 countries. Students from all majors can pursue learning abroad opportunities that further their academic degree.*
- *Many funding opportunities to support study abroad experiences.*
- *Services for international students and scholars that include immigration assistance, a comprehensive orientation, engagement opportunities, and a welcoming environment.*
- *New and existing partnerships with institutions around the globe. Penn State Global supports the work our academics do with international partners in research and service on world issues.*
- *Support for faculty including international components in coursework.*

## Penn State Learning

- > (814) 865.2582
- > [pennstatelearning.psu.edu](http://pennstatelearning.psu.edu)

Penn State Learning provides no-cost, instructor-approved tutoring and guided study groups. All tutors are students who have recently taken many of the courses they tutor and who are well-equipped to help their peers. At Penn State Learning, students may:

- *Drop in or make an appointment to see a math, writing, or world language tutor.*
- *Join face-to-face or hybrid guided study groups for select math, science, statistics, and economics courses.*
- *Apply to be a tutor in subjects in which they excel.*
- *Participate in Study Smarter workshops and adjust to the demands of college learning.*

# ACADEMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

## Student Disability Resources

- > 116 Boucke Building
- > (814) 863.1807
- > [equity.psu.edu/sdr](http://equity.psu.edu/sdr)

Student Disability Resources (SDR) promotes a welcoming and inclusive environment for students with disabilities. The SDR staff determine reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to academics and university life. Examples of accommodations may include extended time for tests, “read aloud” software, sign language interpreting, captioning, and note-taking help. In addition to accommodations, SDR offers student peer groups, connections to on- and off-campus resources, and student community/lounge space for studying or peer fellowship and support opportunities.

## Student Success Center

- > (814) 865.6101
- > [success.psu.edu](http://success.psu.edu)

The Student Success Center (SSC) supports students on the pathway to achieving their academic goals. The SSC is physically located at University Park and specializes in supporting students who are facing challenges to completing their degree on time. The Center oversees the Complete Penn State Program and specializes in offering resources, career, and leadership development opportunities for first-generation students (defined as students whose parents or guardians do not have a bachelor’s degree). The SSC advises a first-generation student org and Tri-Alpha, a national honor society for first-generation students.

## Undergraduate Research and Fellowships Mentoring

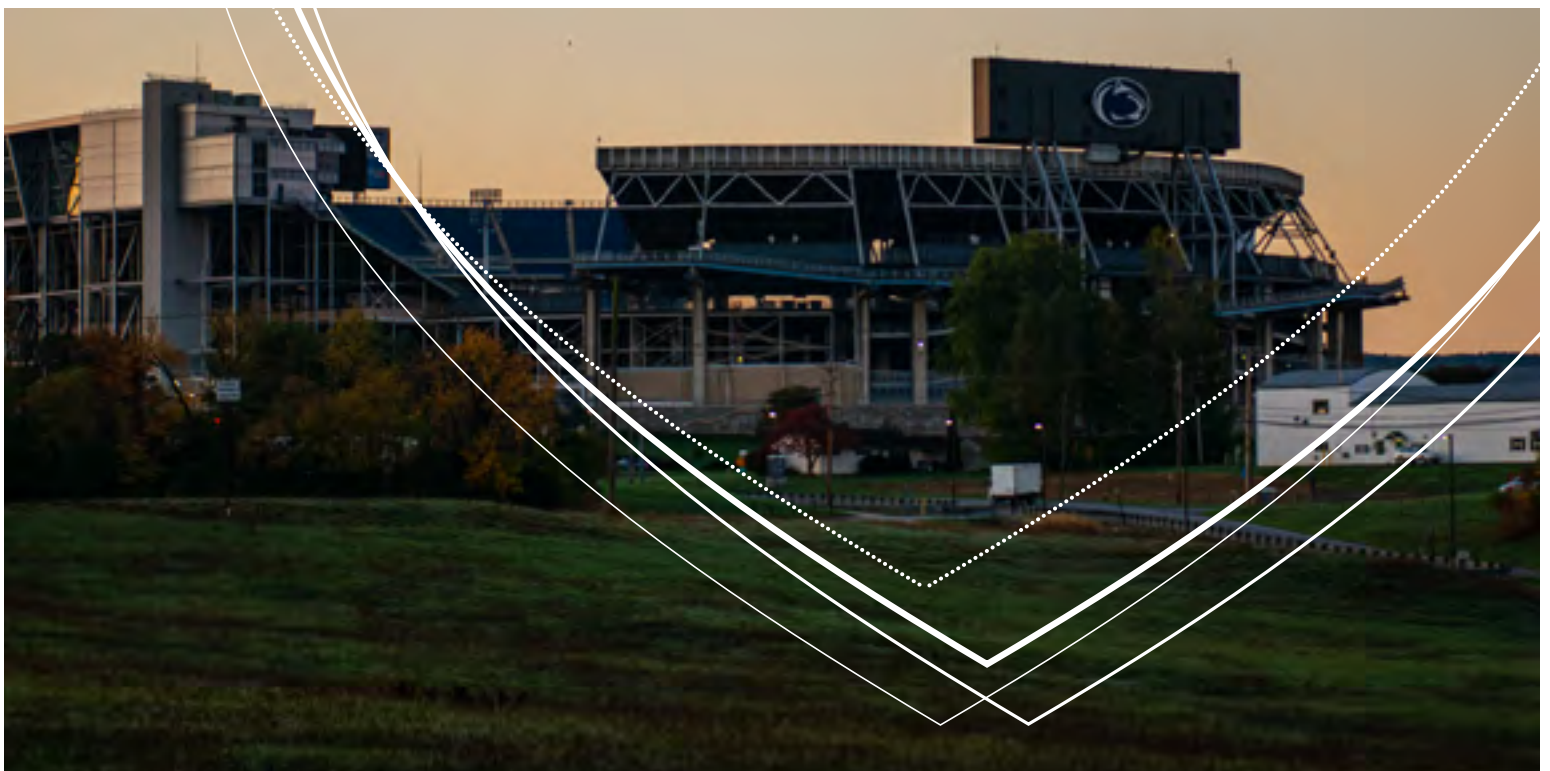
- > 814-863-8199
- > [urfm.psu.edu](http://urfm.psu.edu)

The Undergraduate Research and Fellowships Mentoring Office (URFM) aspires to enrich the educational experiences of Penn State undergraduates by promoting awareness and understanding of research and fellowship opportunities. URFM hosts regular information sessions and workshops, offer individual advising for students interested in exploring undergraduate research or applying for fellowship opportunities, as well as coordinate Penn State’s Undergraduate Research Ambassadors. In collaboration with the University Libraries, the Undergraduate Research and Fellowships Mentoring Office also offer the Spark Program which provides select first- and second-year students with a deep dive into Penn State opportunities and a head start at applying for undergraduate research and fellowship opportunities.

## University Libraries

- > 814-865-6368
- > [libraries.psu.edu](http://libraries.psu.edu)

The University Libraries’ five locations offer students a base for academic, social, and cultural endeavors. Our collections surpass nine million titles, including e-books, 980 online databases, and 225,000 online journals. University Libraries provides on-demand research assistance via the Ask a Librarian service, access to physical and electronic textbooks and course materials, and discipline-specific help through subject and course guides. Most locations house a maker space, multimedia production space, presentation practice rooms, and virtual reality spaces.



# MONEY MATTERS & TECHNOLOGY



- > Tuition
- > Student Aid
- > Student Records and Privacy
- > LionPATH
- > ID+ Card
- > Technology

# TUITION

## Office of the Bursar

- > 103 Shields Building
- > (814) 865.6528
- > [bursar.psu.edu](http://bursar.psu.edu)

The Office of the Bursar is responsible for maintaining student accounts in reference to acceptance fees, tuition billing, charges, payments, and refunds.

## Tuition Statement

Account statements are prepared every month. The due date is indicated on the statement. Billing begins in early August for the fall semester, early January for the spring semester, and May for the summer semester. Billing for LEAP students usually begins in June.

Students will receive notification via their Penn State email account\* when their statement is available to view/pay in LionPATH. Residence hall charges are included on the statement, if applicable. Paper statements are NOT mailed.

*\*The Office of the Bursar, as well as other Penn State departments, will communicate important information to students through their Penn State email account. Students should regularly monitor their PSU email account.*

## Financial Responsibility Agreement

Students must sign a Financial Responsibility Agreement (FRA) before enrolling in classes each semester. The FRA is a student's promise to take responsibility for payment of their account.

## Paying Tuition

The eCheck option is a fast and convenient online method to pay the tuition statement directly from a personal checking account drawn on a U.S. bank. There is no charge to pay by eCheck. Online credit card payments (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express) are also accepted. A service fee will be charged for credit card payments. eCheck and credit card payments are posted to the student account immediately.

If you want to mail a check, a payment stub should be printed and mailed with the payment to Penn State. Please allow seven to ten business days for the payment to be received and posted to the student account. A late fee applies if payment is not posted to the student's account by the due date indicated on the statement.

## Payment Plans

Penn State offers an Installment Payment Plan every semester. Enrollment in the plan allows students/authorized payers to pay the semester charges (tuition, fees, and room and meals, if applicable) over four months in the fall and spring semesters, and three months in the summer. There is a \$45 non-refundable enrollment fee per semester, which covers administrative costs. The payments can be made with eCheck or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express).

The link to enroll online in the payment plan is available on the student account once the first billing statement for the semester is issued. Students/authorized payers can enroll in the plan online with 1/4 of the balance for fall and spring or 1/3 for summer. Enrolling after the first installment due date will require an initial payment of 1/2 of the balance for fall and spring or 2/3 of the balance for summer (subject to change). Please check the Bursar's website for installment dates.

## Additional Student Aid

The Anticipated Financial Aid section on a student's tuition statement reflects the most current known available financial aid. Students with scholarships, grants, or loans that are not reflected on their statement should contact the Office of Student Aid (page 23).

## Outside Scholarship Information

Many students will receive scholarships from various organizations, agencies, and foundations as they graduate from high school. For your student's tuition statement to reflect these outside awards, it is important to send the scholarship checks as early as possible to the address below. Checks must be made payable to Penn State and the student (and be signed by the student for processing) or just made payable to Penn State. Please include the student's PSU ID in the memo line.

- > Office of the Bursar  
Attn: External Awards  
109 Shields Building  
University Park, PA 16802

## eRefund

A refund will be issued if there is a credit balance on the student account. eRefund is an electronic deposit of a refund into the student's bank account and the fastest and most convenient delivery of refunds to students. eRefund is only available to students. Parents receive Parent PLUS loan refunds by paper check.

## Tuition Assessment and Planning

- > [tuition.psu.edu](http://tuition.psu.edu)

Penn State assesses tuition based on the student's campus, college, major, residency classification, credit load, and semester classification. Once an undergraduate student completes 59.1 or more total credits (which include credits earned through advanced placement or transferred from another institution), the student is considered to have obtained Junior/Senior status at Penn State. The Board of Trustees approves the tuition and fees for the academic year in mid-July each year.

By law, Penn State representatives can only respond or speak about the student account with the student and individuals designated as an Authorized Payer by the student. Be sure to ask your student to share any pertinent student account information with you or grant you Authorized Payer access to their student account in LionPATH. Learn more about FERPA and student confidentiality on page 24.

## Remind your student to:

- > Sign up for eRefund (direct deposit)
- > Grant online Authorized Payer Access for parents/others (optional) (page 25)
- > Grant online Delegated Access for parents/others (optional) (page 25)

### The Penn State Sokolov-Miller Family Financial and Life Skills Center

- > (814) 863.0214
- > [financialliteracy.psu.edu](http://financialliteracy.psu.edu)

The Penn State Sokolov-Miller Family Financial and Life Skills Center's mission is to provide students with the ability to use knowledge and skills to manage financial resources effectively for a lifetime of financial well-being. The following services are provided at no additional cost:

- Presentations for classes, clubs, and organizations
- Financial Foundations Workshop Series with opportunity to earn a micro-credential badge
- One-on-one financial coaching
- Free bimonthly public webinars every other Tuesday at noon
- Online self-study modules covering 29 personal finance topics
- Financial literacy mentorship program to connect students with alumni

# STUDENT AID

## Office of Student Aid

- > 314 Shields Building
- > (814) 865.6301
- > [studentaid.psu.edu](http://studentaid.psu.edu)

The Office of Student Aid administers federal, state, and University financial aid and coordinates multiple funding sources on behalf of sponsoring agencies. The primary sources of student aid funding at Penn State come from federal and state programs.

## Applying for Aid

- > [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)

You and your student must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each academic year for your student to be considered for financial aid, including grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study. The FAFSA is the ONLY application required to be considered for most need-based aid at Penn State. Complete the FAFSA or submit corrections online at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov).

Students need to submit the 2024-25 FAFSA to be considered for aid for fall 2024, spring 2025, and summer 2025. Students who are admitted for summer 2024 also need to submit the 2023-24 FAFSA by June 30, 2024, if they wish to be considered for aid for summer 2024.

## Student Aid Notification

Students who submit the FAFSA will receive an email notification from the Office of Student Aid with information about the types of aid they are eligible to receive.

## Federal Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loan

To receive Federal Direct Loans, your student must:

- *Submit the FAFSA at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)*
- *Accept the loan in LionPATH*
- *Sign a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)*
- *Complete Entrance Counseling at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)*

After all the steps above have been completed, the Federal Direct Loan will appear as a credit on the student's bill.

## Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan

The financial aid listed on the Financial Aid Offer in LionPATH may not cover all educational costs. As a parent, you may apply for a Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan. This is a federal loan available only to parents/stepparents of dependent undergraduate students.

## Private Alternative Loans

If the PLUS loan is not an option for you, your student can seek additional funding from private alternative loans, which typically require a cosigner.

## Scholarships

- > [studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships/academic-colleges](http://studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/scholarships/academic-colleges)

All admitted students who submit the FAFSA to Penn State are considered for scholarships awarded by the Office of Student Aid. If your student was awarded a scholarship from the Office of Student Aid, it will be listed on the Financial Aid Offer in LionPATH. Some academic colleges, campuses, and administrative units require separate applications.

- > **Students should check Penn State email frequently. The Office of Student Aid communicates with students through their Penn State email account. They will also be able to access their student aid information in LionPATH. Be sure to ask your student to share any pertinent student aid information with you or grant you delegated access to their Financial Aid Offer in LionPATH.**

## Work Study

- > [hr.psu.edu/careers](http://hr.psu.edu/careers)

All students who apply to Penn State and indicate interest in the Federal Work-Study program on their application are considered for work-study employment. If your student was offered work-study, it will be listed on the Financial Aid Offer in LionPATH.

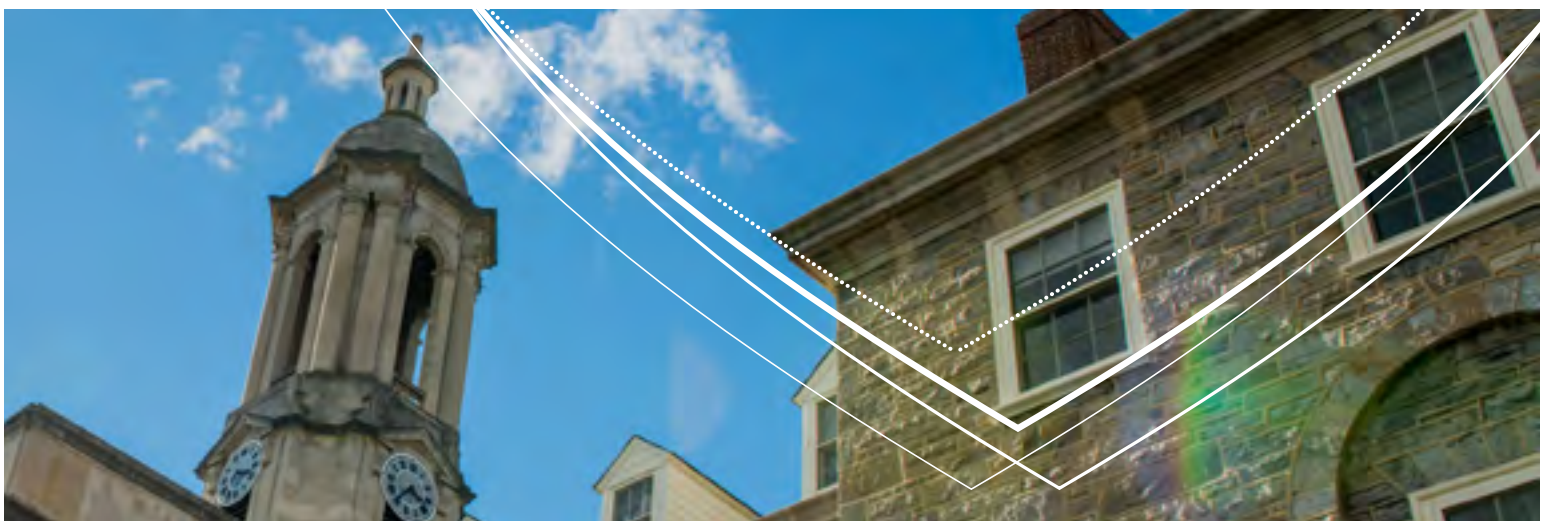
If your student did not receive a work-study award, there are many employment opportunities available on campus. For more information on employment opportunities, visit [studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/employment/other](http://studentaid.psu.edu/types-of-aid/employment/other).

## Rights and Responsibilities of a Financial Aid Recipient

As a financial aid recipient, your student must be well informed about their rights and responsibilities. Be sure that your student carefully reviews this important information on the Office of Student Aid's website and understands Penn State's Satisfactory Academic Progress Standard and what is required of students to remain eligible for student aid.

## FAFSA Verification

The Office of Student Aid is required by the federal government to confirm the accuracy of the information submitted on the FAFSA, a process known as verification. If students are selected for verification at Penn State, they will be notified by the Office of Student Aid. This notification will include the specific information needed and a due date. Please respond promptly to any requests from the Office of Student Aid for verification documents to avoid a delay in the processing of student aid. Please do not submit any documents unless you or your student receives a request.



# STUDENT RECORDS AND PRIVACY

## Office of the University Registrar

- > 112 Shields Building
- > (814) 865.6357
- > [registrar.psu.edu](http://registrar.psu.edu)

The Office of the University Registrar is responsible for student academic records and related processes including registration, academic transcripts, confidentiality of student records, grade reporting, graduation, diplomas, enrollment verification, and degree audits. The office's goal is to provide students with accurate and complete information as quickly as possible.

## Student Educational Records

The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, FERPA (also known as the Buckley Amendment), is the federal law that protects the privacy of student education records and identifies the rights with respect to student education records kept by institutions.

Penn State is committed to maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the student's Social Security number. The primary student identification number used to conduct University business is the Penn State ID number (known as PSU ID).

## Student Rights Under FERPA

Under FERPA, institutions may not release education records, except under certain circumstances, without written consent from the student. This regulation does not apply to information that the University has identified as directory information (e.g. name, address, phone number, major) unless the student has blocked disclosure of such information. The primary rights of students under FERPA include the rights to:

- Have some control over the disclosure of information from their education records
- Inspect and review their educational records
- Request the amendment of inaccurate or otherwise inappropriate education records

To view a comprehensive list of directory information, visit [registrar.psu.edu/confidentiality/directory-information.cfm](http://registrar.psu.edu/confidentiality/directory-information.cfm).

## Parent and Family Rights Under FERPA

When a student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending a postsecondary institution, regardless of age, FERPA rights transfer from the parent or guardian to the student. This means that you may not obtain your student's education records (including end of semester grades) without the written consent of your student. Parents may, with the student's permission, access their student's grades and other portions of their student's education record online through Delegated Access (see page 25) in LionPATH. Parents and guardians do not have access to mid-semester grades. We encourage you to discuss this with your student.

## Withhold Directory Information

Under FERPA, an institution is permitted to release directory information without written consent from the student. However, a student has the right to prevent this release in one of two ways. The student must complete and sign the Request to Withhold Directory Information form found on the Registrar's website under Student Forms. The signed form must be taken in person or mailed along with a copy of photo identification to the Registrar's office. Students with access to LionPATH may complete the request in the following ways:

- Complete and submit the Change Directory Info (FERPA) form in LionPATH
- Upload a clear and valid photo identification to your request
- An email notification will be sent to your student's official Penn State email account when the withholding of directory information is in effect

Withholding directory information means:

- Student name/address is excluded from the online directory
- Student name will not appear in the commencement program
- Verification of enrollment, graduation or degrees awarded will not be provided to third parties, including potential employers
- No information about the student will be released to any person (including the student) on the telephone or via email

## Release Directory Information

If a student later wishes to remove the directory hold, the student must complete and sign the Request to Release Directory Information form found on the Registrar's website under Student Forms. The signed form may be taken in person or mailed along with a copy of photo identification to the Registrar's office.

Students with access to LionPATH may complete the request in the following ways:

- Complete and submit the Change Directory Info (FERPA) form in LionPATH
- Upload a clear and valid photo identification to your request
- An email notification will be sent to your student's official Penn State email account when the release of directory information is in effect

## Enrollment Verification

Insurance companies, financial lenders, or employers may require proof that a student was or is currently enrolled at Penn State. Enrollment verification provides proof of enrollment, graduation, student status, and other related information.

Currently, enrolled students may use the Enrollment Verification under Academic Records in LionPATH Self Service. The student may print an unofficial copy and mail it to the requesting agency, or they may request an official verification, containing the University Registrar's signature and University seal on security paper, to be mailed to the specified address via first-class U.S. mail within three business days. This function is also available to families through the LionPATH Self Service if their student has granted them Delegated Access.

Because of the volume of requests received, the Registrar is unable to complete agency-supplied verification forms. The official University enrollment verification document can be attached to the original agency-supplied form.

All other parties may contact the National Student Clearinghouse for verification of students' enrollment and degree information at [studentclearinghouse.com](http://studentclearinghouse.com).

## Leaving the University

Students should carefully consider all the consequences to leaving Penn State before they complete the process. There are ramifications for financial aid, loan repayments, and health insurance. In addition, there are processes that must be followed when a student determines that they are ready to return to the University. For information about leaving the University and proper processes, visit [registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/leaving/index.cfm](http://registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/leaving/index.cfm).





## LIONPATH

> [public.lionpath.psu.edu](https://public.lionpath.psu.edu)

LionPATH is Penn State's student information system. Students use LionPATH to enroll in classes, view financial aid, pay tuition, check grades, submit health insurance information, and more.

LionPATH provides two processes to access student information. You can view your student's data—such as grades, financial aid, and class schedules—by using Delegated Access. In addition, you can pay tuition by using Authorized Payer Access. Delegated Access and Authorized Payer Access are two separate functions within LionPATH. For more information and to view tutorials, visit [lionpathsupport.psu.edu/parent](https://lionpathsupport.psu.edu/parent).

### Using Delegated Access

For you to access student data in LionPATH, your student must first provide access to you.

#### Step One

Provide your student with your email address to receive your activation email. This email will also serve as your login ID.

#### Step Two

Once your student has given you access, you will receive an activation email that will contain a login ID, temporary password, and a link for you to log in and view those areas your student has shared.

**Note:** If you are a Penn State employee or student, the link to view shared information is a different URL than you may normally use to access LionPATH.

- For staff who are students AND use LionPATH in daily work, use [lionpath.psu.edu](https://lionpath.psu.edu)
- For all staff who have been given Delegated Access by their student, use [public.lionpath.psu.edu](https://public.lionpath.psu.edu) and click on the Delegated Access tab

### Delegated Access for Multiple Students

If you have more than one student and both delegate access to you, use the same email address and password to access information shared by each student. The email initiated by the first student will include a temporary password. After you reset your password, emails sent from additional students will not contain a temporary password. When multiple students give you Delegated Access, each is listed when you login; however, you can only view one student's data at a time.

### View and Pay Tuition Using Authorized Payer Access

Your student can give you access to view their Student Account Statement, make payments, enroll in the Installment Payment Plan, and access IRS Form 1098-T by using Authorized Payer Access. Your student grants you access through their student account in LionPATH. After access is granted, a login ID, temporary password, and login link will be sent to you via email.

Federal law prohibits Penn State representatives from corresponding or speaking about the student's account with anyone other than the student unless the student has designated the individual as an Authorized Payer.

### Authorized Payer Access for Multiple Students

If you have more than one student at Penn State, regardless of campus, you can easily link your students' accounts. You will receive a separate user ID and a separate temporary password for each student via email as each student grants you Authorized Payer Access.

### How to Link Multiple Accounts

- Visit [public.lionpath.psu.edu](https://public.lionpath.psu.edu) and click on the Authorized Payer Access tab.
- Use your Authorized Payer user ID and password you received via email. You must use the correct User ID and password when accessing each student's account and you must log in at least once to each account to be able to link the students' accounts. Once the student accounts are linked you only need to log in to one of the student accounts.
- Navigate to the My Account section on the left side menu of the Student Account Dashboard to manage your account.
- To use Authorized Payer access for multiple students, click on the pencil icon next to the student's name on the Overview section on the left side menu.
- The student's page displays the name of the student you are currently viewing.
- If another student has given you access to view their account, and you have logged in at least once to that student's account, you will see that student's account listed as other students (click the View box to switch to the other student account).

> Access to view and pay tuition is provided when your student grants you Authorized Payer Access in LionPATH. Authorized Payer Access is separate and in addition to the Delegated Access that the student grants via LionPATH for academic information.

# ID+ CARD

## ID+ Office

- > HUB-Robeson Center, Lower Level
- > (814) 865.7590
- > [idcard.psu.edu](http://idcard.psu.edu)

The id+ Office issues University ID cards and is the central office responsible for the support of all ID card-related services.

## id+ Card

Your student is required by University policy to obtain and carry the Penn State id+ card at all times. The id+ card is transferrable between Penn State campuses. The id+ card is a vital part of life at Penn State, providing easy access to University resources and services, such as library services, access to the residence halls, athletic events, and testing centers. The id+ card is also the mechanism used for accessing the Campus Meal Plan, LionCash, and (optional) PNC Bank accounts.

## LionCash

- > [idcard.psu.edu/lioncash](http://idcard.psu.edu/lioncash)

LionCash is Penn State's prepaid spending account. It is a safe and easy way for your student to make purchases on campus and around town. LionCash is accepted at over 200 participating locations, including on-campus printing, vending, laundry, and copy machines. LionCash is the only accepted payment method for on-campus laundry facilities. To activate your student's LionCash account, make an initial deposit online or at the id+ Office. There are no fees to use the account and balances carry over from semester to semester and from year to year. Upon graduation, withdrawal, or at the end of the spring semester, your student may request a refund for the balance remaining in their account (less a \$10.00 processing fee).

## LionCash Deposits

- > [idcard.psu.edu](http://idcard.psu.edu)

Family and friends may deposit funds into a student's LionCash account online with a MasterCard, Visa, American Express, or Discover card. Deposits are processed as a standard purchase, not a cash advance, and are processed in real-time so funds are immediately available. Access to deposit LionCash is also available on the Penn State Go app.

Your student can manage LionCash and the Campus Meal Plan online. Your student can check account balances, review transaction history, and deactivate a lost or stolen id+ card. If your student works on campus, they may also sign up for payroll deductions into their LionCash account.

## id+ Card and PNC Bank Accounts

- > [pnc.com/psu](http://pnc.com/psu)

With 12 ATMs and a Customer Service Center on campus, PNC makes banking easy for students. Through an exclusive banking partnership with PNC Bank, your student may link a PNC checking account to the id+ card so the id+ card can be used to get cash at any ATM. Your student will have free access to their account at more than 7,100 PNC Bank ATMs, online and text message banking, and account alerts that help them keep track of their checking balance.

## One Card Access

The Campus Meal Plan, LionCash, and PNC Bank accounts can be accessed using the id+ card even though they are three separate accounts. The technology eliminates the need for your student to carry multiple cards on campus by using one card to access multiple accounts.

- *If your student uses the id+ card to purchase any on-campus dining facility or eatery, the funds will be deducted from the Campus Meal Plan account.*
- *If your student uses the id+ card to purchase at an off-campus LionCash Merchant location, at an on-campus location that is not a Food Service operation such as the Penn State Bookstore, or in an on-campus printer, copier, laundry, or vending machine, the funds will be deducted from the LionCash account.*
- *If your student uses the id+ card in an ATM to withdraw or deposit money, the transaction will be deducted from the student's PNC account.*

## Mobile Id+ Card

- > [idcard.psu.edu/mobile](http://idcard.psu.edu/mobile)

Penn State students can access University resources through a mobile id+ card as well. Once added to their iPhone, Apple Watch, or Android device the mobile id+ card can be used to access campus housing facilities, securely make transactions to purchase meals across the University, and use LionCash anywhere it is accepted, such as to pay for on-campus laundry.

## Replacing the id+ Card

If your student's id+ card has been lost or stolen, your student should immediately deactivate it online, in person at a Commons Desk, or at the id+ Office. Deactivating the card will suspend residence hall access, Campus Meal Plan, and LionCash access. If the card is found before a replacement id+ card is issued, it may be reactivated online within seven days of being deactivated. For IDs not recovered, a new id+ card may be obtained at the id+ Office for a fee. After hours, your student may obtain a temporary replacement ID at their Commons Desk for a nominal fee until they can visit the id+ Office. New or replacement IDs will be active immediately for residence hall access, Campus Meal Plan and LionCash account. Access to testing centers is not available on the temporary replacement IDs.

The PNC Bank relationship benefits students and the University. The University receives financial support from its relationship with PNC Bank. Annual financial support from PNC Bank helps to support operating expenses for the id+ card program as well as other University services. Please direct questions about the University's relationship with PNC Bank to the id+ Office. Linking your id+ card to your PNC Bank accounts enables you to use your id+ card in ATMs only. Your PNC Bank account is a separate account from the Campus Meal Plan and LionCash accounts. Virtual Wallet is a registered trademark of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. ©2022 The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. All rights reserved. PNC Bank, National Association. Member FDIC.

# TECHNOLOGY

## Penn State IT

> [it.psu.edu](https://it.psu.edu)

The Penn State IT Service Desk provides 24/7 assistance through services including an extensive online knowledge base, chat, phone, request form, or email.

Students also have the option to visit one of the walk-up service desk locations where they can get assistance with any of their technology needs.

Walk-up locations and additional IT support information is available at [help.psu.edu](https://help.psu.edu).

## Student Technology Guide

> [connectotech.psu.edu](https://connectotech.psu.edu)

This comprehensive guide introduces students to the University's most important Information Technology (IT) resources, such as account management, essential IT tools for learning, technology tutoring, where to store their files, and where to get help creating multimedia projects.

## Penn State Accounts

> [accounts.psu.edu](https://accounts.psu.edu)

A student's Penn State Account user ID (e.g., xyz5000) is their digital identity at the University that provides access to secure online resources and services to which they have been granted access. Students are automatically assigned a Penn State user ID when they apply for admission online.

Students will log in to secure University resources and applications such as lab computers, Penn State's wireless network, Canvas, and LionPATH by entering their Penn State user ID followed by @psu.edu (e.g., xyz5000@psu.edu). Students will use their Penn State Account user ID and password to log in to secure University sites and services for as long as they're affiliated with Penn State.

Settings within the Penn State Account, like passwords and personal information, can be changed or updated through the Account Management website. The Penn State Account user ID and password should not be confused with the student's unique nine-digit PSU ID number (e.g., 912345678) that is part of their id+ card.

## Wireless Access

> [bit.ly/wi-fi-FAQ](https://bit.ly/wi-fi-FAQ)

Secure wireless access is available for students in most University-owned or leased buildings, on or off campus.

Students can visit [bit.ly/wi-fi-connect](https://bit.ly/wi-fi-connect) for instructions on how to connect to Penn State's secure wireless "psu" network.

Students can visit [wireless.psu.edu](https://wireless.psu.edu) to set up wireless for each of their specific devices.

Campus guests and visitors can connect to the unauthenticated psu-guest wireless network at <https://psu-guest.psu.edu>. The guest network is not intended for use by students and should not be used for University-owned devices. Guests and visitors can visit [bit.ly/wi-fi-guest-connect](https://bit.ly/wi-fi-guest-connect) for more information.

Registering through the Roomgear ([roomgear.psu.edu](https://roomgear.psu.edu)) wireless network within residence halls allows students to connect their gaming consoles, remote-controlled streaming devices, smart TVs, and smart speakers. Students can visit [it.psu.edu/students](https://it.psu.edu/students) and click on Get Connected for more information.

## Protecting Your Student's Identity and Data

> [security.psu.edu/education-training](https://security.psu.edu/education-training)

Penn State takes the security and privacy of your student's personal information seriously. Penn State IT uses robust processes and technologies to safeguard its data and systems to ensure they can only be accessed by authorized users. Students are required to enroll in multifactor authentication (MFA) to help protect their personal information, as well as sensitive and confidential Penn State resources and data. The University also provides information to students on how to protect themselves from phishing attacks, viruses, spyware, ransomware, identity and data theft, and other forms of cyberattacks.

## Software at Penn State

> [software.psu.edu](https://software.psu.edu)

Software at Penn State provides students access to many software applications at discounted prices, including some at no cost such as Microsoft Office 365 and Adobe Creative Cloud. Discipline-specific apps such as Matlab, SAS, EndNote, SPSS, Qualtrics, and Esri are also available.

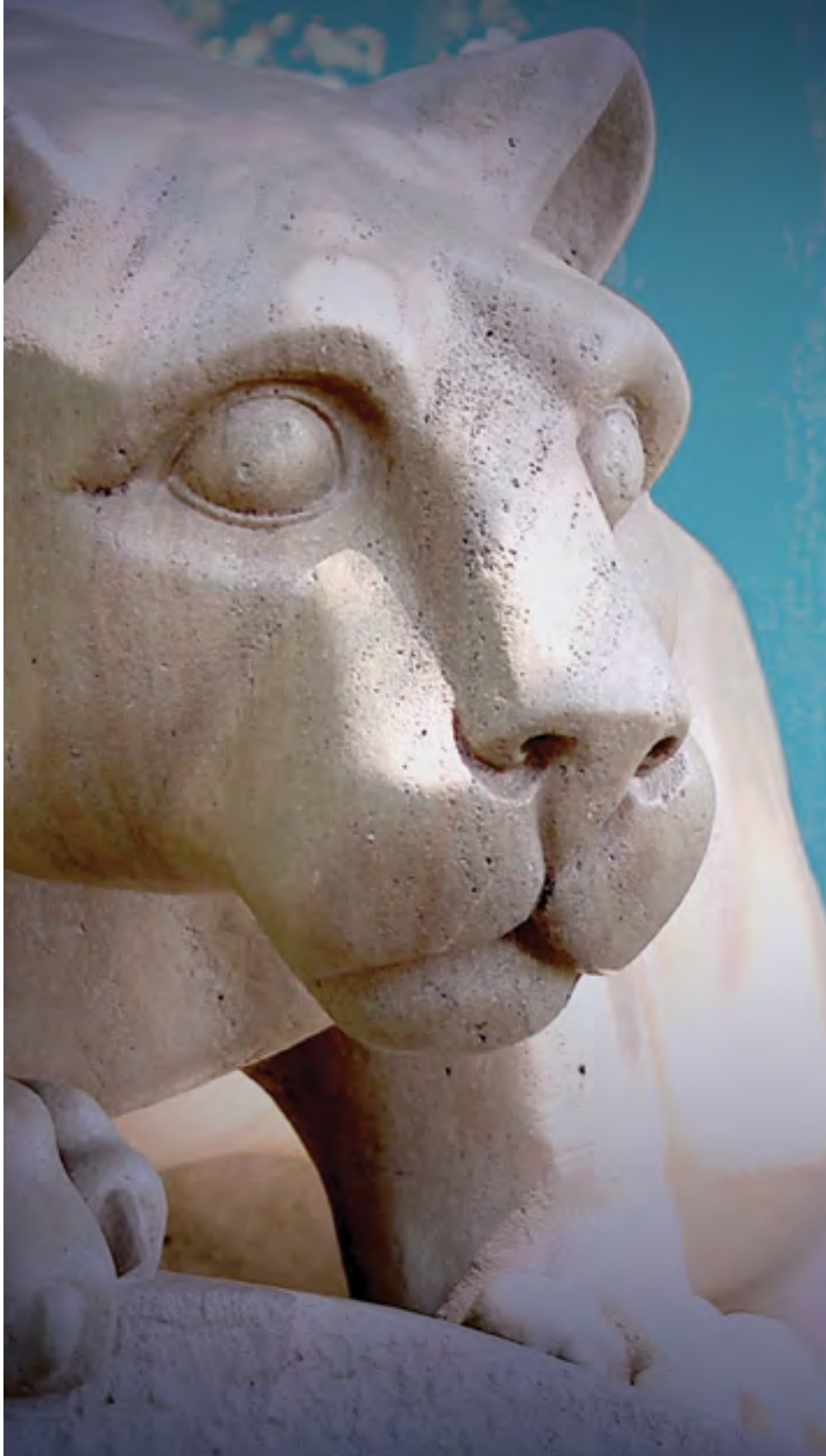
## Penn State Student Systems

These Penn State systems are frequently used by Penn State students to navigate life on campus.

- **Canvas**  
*Penn State's online system for teaching and learning where students and professors can upload course materials and conduct online discussions*
- **eLiving**  
*On-campus housing portal, including roommate assignments and LiveOn Housing Process*
- **LionPATH**  
*Student information system to register for classes, check end-of-semester grades, and pay bills*
- **Penn State Go**  
*The official and all-in-one mobile app available to download in the Google Play Store and Apple App store*
- **myUHS**  
*University Health Services portal to submit immunization records, make appointments, and communicate*
- **Starfish**  
*Communication portal that gives students centralized access to advisers, instructors, and others who provide academic support*



# CAMPUS LIFE



- > Student Affairs
- > Arts and Entertainment
- > Housing, Food Services and Residence Life
- > Arrival and Move-In
- > Housing Beyond the First Year

# STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

## > [studentaffairs.psu.edu](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu)

Student Affairs provides programs and services to promote the intellectual and personal development of students throughout their college careers. These offerings challenge and support Penn State students as they become active and responsible members of their communities.

### **Providing Community and Advocacy**

When a student feels safe and welcome, they can focus on learning, developing friendships, and growing personally. Student Affairs provides support and advocacy to help students, programming around diversity and inclusion, and spaces where all students can feel safe and included.

### **Adult Learner Programs and Services**

- > 210 Boucke Building
- > (814) 863.7378
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/adults](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/adults)

Adult Learner Programs and Services provides advocacy, mentorship, and programming for non-traditional aged students, student veterans, parenting students, and first-generation students pursuing their undergraduate degree. The office assists students who are returning to higher education, beginning college after working, raising a family, or serving in the military and helps them navigate campus life, identify campus and community resources, childcare subsidies, financial aid, and provides support to overcome challenges. Programs include monthly workshops, film discussions, leadership topics, career development, and cultural and social events. Academic life coaching is also available.

### **Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development**

- > Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
- > Eisenhower Chapel
- > (814) 865.6548
- > [spiritual@psu.edu](mailto:spiritual@psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/spiritual](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/spiritual)

The Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development (CSED) provides a venue and programs for the ethical, spiritual, and character development of the University community. The CSED hosts a culturally diverse, multi-faith community. Penn State supports the principle of religious freedom and believes that religious practices, spiritual inquiry, and holistic development have a place within University life; however, Penn State endorses no religion or religious group.

### **Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity**

- > LL011 HUB-Robeson Center
- > (814) 863.1248
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd)

The Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, centrally located in the HUB Robeson Center, aims to create an open and safer space at Penn State for students, faculty, and staff who hold diverse sexualities and/or gender identities. Through a range of educational opportunities, programming, and advocacy the Center works to promote a more welcoming and affirming campus culture and create a sense of belonging for all Penn State students.

### **Center for Social Change and Belonging**

- > 204 Boucke Building
- > (814) 863.0629
- > [socialchange@psu.edu](mailto:socialchange@psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/social-change](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/social-change)

The Center for Social Change and Belonging serves as a visionary, inclusive, innovative, and process-oriented space that envisions the creation of strategy that fosters a sense of belonging and inclusion while promoting outreach and social change across the student experience.

The Center for Social Change and Belonging offers curricular and cocurricular opportunities that:

- *Build capacity of students, staff, and faculty to acknowledge, understand, prioritize, and embed the tenets of diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and accessibility into their lives.*
- *Create transformative learning spaces and programs that encourage self-reflection, intersectional solidarity, action, and advocacy.*
- *Develop a community of students, staff, and faculty committed to self-awareness, equity, justice, and collective liberation.*
- *In partnership with other Student Affairs Equity and Inclusion units, empower our students, staff, and faculty to become social justice leaders and change agents in our communities.*

### **Collegiate Recovery Community**

- > 106 Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
- > (814) 863.0140
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/recovery](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/recovery)

The Penn State Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) offers support to students in recovery from alcohol and other substance use disorders. CRC members agree to:

- *Not use alcohol and other substances*
- *Attend peer-support seminars with the CRC*
- *Work a recovery program outside the CRC (i.e. by attending A.A. or N.A. meetings and working with a sponsor, or by attending SMART recovery meetings, in addition to other options)*

Some students live in ROAR (Residence of Addiction Recovery) House, the Penn State CRC's dedicated on-campus recovery housing. Students interested in ROAR House should contact the CRC.

### **Gender Equity Center**

- > 222U Boucke Building
- > (814) 863.2027
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity)

The Gender Equity Center provides free and confidential support and advocacy to all students affected by issues such as sexual violence, relationship violence, stalking, body image concerns, and more. The Center also provides referrals and other resource information, as well as educational opportunities throughout the year. Students can get involved with the Center through its various peer education groups or participating in programs and awareness campaigns. The Center commits itself to serve all students in the spirit of diversity and social justice.

### **Paul Robeson Cultural Center**

- > 21 HUB-Robeson Center
- > (814) 865.3776
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural)

The Paul Robeson Cultural Center (PRCC) serves students in developing character, conscience, and social responsibility through fostering and focusing on diversity, racial identity, social justice, peer-mentoring, and inclusion. PRCC programs focus on celebrating people of color and their unique histories through various initiatives, including cultural enrichment, community support, social justice, signature programming, identity development, and program sponsorship.

The BLUEprint peer mentoring organization promotes academic, social, and cultural enrichment through peer mentoring through a certified program.

## Student Care and Advocacy

- > 222 Boucke Building
- > (814) 863.2020
- > [studentcare@psu.edu](mailto:studentcare@psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/studentcare](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/studentcare)

Student Care and Advocacy uses a coordinated, team approach when empowering students to navigate unforeseen difficulties. The team suggests a course of action that considers the needs of the individual in the context of available resources. No matter the situation faced by the student, the team focuses on helping the whole person, knowing that difficult circumstances are often indicators of other challenges that the student may be facing. While the team helps students going through any issue, the office has three primary pillars of care:

- *Basic needs*
- *Respondent support*
- *Care coordination*

Examples of situations with which the office can assist are academic concerns, basic needs assistance, loss of a loved one, family emergency, medical and/or mental health concerns or hospitalizations, navigating the University misconduct process, and/or unforeseen events or challenges. The approach is one of empowerment, encouraging students to maximize their educational experience and prepare for involvement in the larger community and life beyond college.

## Student Legal Services

- > 204 East Calder Way, Suite 200
- > (814) 867.4388
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices)

Student Legal Services provides free legal services to University Park students. Services may include advice, representation, or referrals. Common issues are:

- *Landlord disputes*
- *Criminal charges*
- *Consumer issues*
- *Immigration concerns*

To request services, students can visit the website and complete an online form.

## The Lion's Pantry

- > Big Hollow Road, near Lion Surplus and the Blue Band Building
- > [thelionspantry.psu.edu](http://thelionspantry.psu.edu)

Established in 2014 by two concerned students, The Lion's Pantry serves as the official on-campus student food pantry at Penn State's University Park campus. Today, the pantry continues to be a student-led organization working to address food insecurity and inspire service within the Penn State community. The pantry offers a safe, judgement free space where guests can collect food, toiletries, and household items. Additional offerings include student leadership, employment, and volunteer opportunities for students.

### Shaping Citizens and Leaders

Much of student learning happens outside the classroom. Student Affairs offers programs and events to develop critical thinking, decision making, teamwork, and conflict resolution, making students better leaders, stronger professionals, and responsible citizens.

## Campus Recreation

- > (814) 867.1600
- > [campusrec@psu.edu](mailto:campusrec@psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/campusrec](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/campusrec)

With facilities located conveniently throughout campus, Campus Rec has activities for students with a variety of interests, experiences, and needs. All students are invited to take advantage of the programs, facilities, and services provided to round out their academic and other campus pursuits. Connecting with Campus Rec has benefits that extend far beyond just staying healthy and fit. Research indicates that students who utilize recreation programs have higher GPAs than those that don't participate.

## Student Employment at Campus Rec

- > <https://hr.psu.edu/careers>

Campus Recreation is one of the largest employers on campus, with over 600 student workers. Campus Rec puts the student first in "student employee" and work with each student to support their academic pursuits.

## Campus Recreation Facilities

- *Hepper Fitness Center*
- *Intramural (IM) Building*
- *McCoy Natatorium*
- *Stone Valley Recreation Area*
- *Tennis Center*
- *White Building*

## Campus Recreation Programming:

### Aquatics

Housed in McCoy Natatorium, the aquatics program offers a wide range of programs. For a nominal fee, swim lessons and safety classes are available. McCoy has two lap pools, a diving well, and an outdoor pool open during the summer.

### Fitness and Wellbeing

Students enjoy over 100 free, drop-in group fitness classes per week across cardio, strength, and mind-body formats. Personal training and various small group classes are available for a nominal fee.

### Intramural and Club Sports

Intramural Sports offers a variety of team and individual sports, tournaments, and events for students of all abilities. Club Sports provide the opportunity to learn a new sport or continue playing one at a competitive level.

### Outdoor Adventures

Outdoor Adventures offer adventure trips throughout the year in kayaking, climbing, whitewater rafting, and backpacking throughout Pennsylvania and the eastern United States. Climbing, bouldering, equipment rentals, and trip planning resources are available at the IM Building.

### Tennis

Enjoy serious match play, hit around for fun, or play pickleball at the Tennis Center. Services include informal play, private and group instruction, and clinics.

### Career Services

- > 101 Bank of America Career Services Building
- > (814) 865.2377
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/career](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/career)

Students should be active in career planning to be successful after graduation. Career Services offers counseling, programs, and resources that can help. Professional staff counsel students on the exploration of academic majors and career options. Staff also coach students on gaining experience, writing resumes, interviewing, job searching, applying to graduate school, and more. Career fairs, job postings, on-campus interviews, and networking opportunities are available.

### Dr. Keiko Miwa Ross Student Farm

- > Big Hollow Road and Fox Hollow Road
- > [studentfarm@psu.edu](mailto:studentfarm@psu.edu)
- > [studentfarm.psu.edu](http://studentfarm.psu.edu)

The Dr. Keiko Miwa Ross Student Farm at Penn State is a space for students to explore sustainability and build community in an engaging, hands-on environment. The program hosts a bounty of opportunities for students ranging from internships in areas like graphic design and food production, to student-led community events, volunteer opportunities, workshops, and more. Our student-led and community-supported vegetable farm on four acres of Penn State's University Park campus also sells hundreds of pounds of fresh produce to the dining commons each year, as well as donating produce to The Lion's Pantry.

### Fraternity and Sorority Life

- > 215 HUB-Robeson Center
- > (814) 863.8065
- > [greeks.psu.edu](http://greeks.psu.edu)

The vision for the Penn State fraternity and sorority community is to be a safe, civil, and civically engaged extension of campus cocurricular learning. The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life provides advisement, education, and support to the governing councils and chapter leadership. Greek-letter fraternities and sororities are committed to the basic principles of fraternity and sorority membership: academic achievement, service and philanthropy, leadership, brotherhood and sisterhood, social, and alumni involvement.

Students may join fraternities and sororities after they earn 14 credits at Penn State or 27 credits at another higher education institution, have a 2.5 GPA, and are in good conduct standing. New member education processes are approved by the University and run for no more than six weeks. All student members pay a Greek Membership Fee to the University. The amount depends upon the chapter and council with which a student is affiliated. Additional fees are also assessed by most organizations.

### HUB-Robeson Center

- > (814) 863.9755
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub)

The HUB-Robeson Center (HUB) is committed to providing all students with opportunities to become engaged in high-quality cocurricular experiences. The HUB provides a variety of cultural, educational, social, and recreational programs for all students. Most notably, the offices in the HUB offer a wide array of programs and services, such as: recognizing and registering student organizations, offering experiences designed to help students develop their leadership potential, student employment opportunities, and planning programs that engage students in service-learning activities. Other opportunities include touring an art gallery, visiting the Penn State Bookstore, dining in one of the HUB eateries, or finding a place to study or relax. The HUB strives to provide an environment that fosters respect, values all individuals, appreciates diversity, and celebrates the contributions of all students and visitors.

### Student Engagement Network

- > HUB-Robeson Center, First Floor
- > [engage.psu.edu](http://engage.psu.edu)

The University believes that engagement is a critical component of student learning and a distinctive feature of the Penn State experience. The Student Engagement Network (SEN) provides information for students, faculty, staff, and community members about participating in, planning and implementing, and assessing curricular and cocurricular engagement experiences. The SEN offers:

- *Engagement App: students can search for engagement opportunities, set goals, unlock resources, and track success*
- *Engagement Space: students can meet with SEN Interns, attend workshops, and learn more about their engagement goals*
- *SEN Grant Program: funding that helps cover costs of any engagement opportunity or experience*
- *Student Engagement Expo: students can highlight their engagement experiences through posters and short presentations*
- *SEN Internship Program: students can apply for an internship with SEN and serve as leaders and ambassadors for student engagement*







### Student Leadership and Involvement

- > 103 HUB-Robeson Center
- > (814) 863.4624
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/get-involved](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/get-involved)
- > [orgcentral.psu.edu](http://orgcentral.psu.edu)

Student Leadership and Involvement cultivates student learning by fostering exploration, community engagement, and development through educational and experiential opportunities. The office provides involvement opportunities and resources, advises individual students and student organizations, promotes active and responsible citizenship, and develops collaborative community partnerships. Students can enhance their leadership skills, participate in community service programs, attend social and educational programs, take a class through the Center for Arts and Crafts, or join a student organization by attending the Involvement Fairs or going to [orgcentral.psu.edu](http://orgcentral.psu.edu). Students may participate in one of the several student organizations advised by the office such as Homecoming, Student Programming Association, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Student Committee, University Park Allocation Committee, and others.

### Timothy J. Piazza Center for Fraternity and Sorority Research

- > [piazzacenter@psu.edu](mailto:piazzacenter@psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/piazzacenter](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/piazzacenter)

The Piazza Center is a national multidisciplinary research center dedicated to creating stronger and safer fraternities and sororities at Penn State and nationwide through research with top experts. The Center's projects include:

- *Identifying the best anti-hazing prevention strategies*
- *Showing fraternity and sorority life is relevant and documenting member learning and leadership*
- *Changing the conversation about diversity and antisemitism*

Parents can become involved locally or nationally through our anti-hazing prevention work.

### Arts and Entertainment

When our students look for entertainment, they are faced with a significant number of choices. From premier performing and visual arts, large concerts, and unparalleled varsity sports, Penn State provides many opportunities for students to spend their leisure time on campus.

### Arts Engagement

- > [cpa.psu.edu](http://cpa.psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/involvement-student-life/art-theatre-music](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/involvement-student-life/art-theatre-music)

The Student Arts Engagement Manager is a collaborative effort of the Center for the Performing Arts, the College of Arts and Architecture, and Student Affairs. The manager finds ways for students to engage in the many arts experiences available on campus and in the community. The University hopes that every student will have at least one meaningful arts experience before graduation.

### Blue & White Society

*Penn State Alumni Association*

- > Hintz Family Alumni Center
- > (814) 867.4649
- > [bluwhitesociety.com](http://bluwhitesociety.com)

The Blue & White Society (BWS) is the student arm of the Penn State Alumni Association. BWS helps students find their pride and start their lifelong journey with the Penn State alumni family. Membership provides access to programs that help develop leadership, networking, and teamwork skills. Members also have opportunities to become involved with campus activities such as THON, Homecoming, the S-Zone, and gameday shakers.

### Bryce Jordan Center

- > (814) 865.5555
- > [jordancenter@psu.edu](mailto:jordancenter@psu.edu)
- > [bjc.psu.edu](http://bjc.psu.edu)

The Bryce Jordan Center (BJC) is central Pennsylvania's premier entertainment facility. The 15,000+ seat arena has hosted top-name performers in the music entertainment industry as well as family shows, sporting events, commencements, Penn State Men's and Women's Basketball, and THON, the largest student-run philanthropy in the country. Tickets to most events are discounted for University Park students courtesy of the student fee board. Follow @jordancenter on Facebook, Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and TikTok.

### Center for the Performing Arts

- > Eisenhower Auditorium
- > (814) 863.0255
- > [cpa.psu.edu](http://cpa.psu.edu)

The Center for the Performing Arts at Penn State presents professional artists from around the world. Most performances take place in Eisenhower Auditorium. The Center welcomes touring Broadway productions, classical and jazz musicians, contemporary circus shows, modern and classical dance companies, international music artists, family productions, and more. Tickets are discounted for University Park students. Group discounts are available.

### Intercollegiate Athletics

- > (800) NITTANY
- > [gopsusports.com](http://gopsusports.com)

Penn State, a member of the Big Ten Conference since 1991, offers 31 men's and women's varsity sports. Sports are governed by the NCAA. The teams are highly competitive both within the Big Ten and on the national level. Competitions are both home and away and Penn State sports venues offer some of the best fields and arenas in the country. Penn State Intercollegiate Athletics is home to 80 National Championships and 119 Big Ten titles. The Nittany Lions have also supported more than 100 athletes in the Olympic Games, including 11 coaches/faculty.

The majority of the competitions are free to students who show their valid Penn State id+ card. Football, men's hockey, and men's basketball require a student ticket purchase. Football and men's hockey are only sold through the Athletics Department on a season ticket basis. Men's basketball tickets are sold to students via season tickets or single-game tickets. All tickets can be transferred to another student should the ticket holder be unable to attend.

### Palmer Museum of Art

- > Bigler Road
- > (814) 865.7673
- > [palmermuseum.psu.edu](http://palmermuseum.psu.edu)

The Palmer Museum of Art at Penn State is the largest art museum collection between Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and the most significant academic art museum in the state of Pennsylvania. A key element of Penn State's land-grant mission of teaching, research, and public service, the Museum is a vital and accessible cultural resource for Penn State's students, faculty, and scholars, as well as for all visitors to and from the entire central Pennsylvania region.

# HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICES

- > Housing: (814) 865.7501
- > Food Services: (814) 863.1255
- > [liveon.psu.edu/university-park](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park)

University Park features several housing areas with 55 residence halls and 359 apartments. A Commons Building is located in each area offering dining facilities, a Commons Desk, and other features. Over 14,500 undergraduate students and more than 300 graduate students reside on campus. No matter which housing area becomes your student's home, they will be within walking distance to dining facilities, computer labs, classrooms, and recreational facilities. The LiveOn experience is designed to help students transition to the University, provides access to many support services and programs designed to help students succeed, and offers students the convenience of being close to everything. Although there are a variety of living options, most first-year students are assigned to a traditional residence hall with two students per room.

Food Services is one of the largest University-run operations in the country, purchasing over \$30 million in goods each year. Penn State serves over 1.7 million meals each semester to students, faculty, and staff through five on-campus dining commons, multiple retail operations, professional catering, and coffee shops.

## Student Employment

- > [hr.psu.edu/careers](https://hr.psu.edu/careers)

More than 1,000 students work on campus with Food Services, Penn State Bakery, Bryce Jordan Center, Housing, Commons Desks, Residence Life, and other offices throughout campus. Students can work between 10-20 hours a week with a flexible schedule that works around classes and other cocurricular activities. Benefits include an attractive starting salary, merit increases, on-the-job training, advancement opportunities, plus many social benefits and opportunities to be involved on campus.

## 2024 ARRIVAL AND MOVE-IN

- > [arrival.psu.edu](https://arrival.psu.edu)

Learn about preparing for summer and fall arrival, including a list of items to bring, parking information, check-in locations, and more.

### ***Is lodging available for families during arrival and move-in?***

- > [parents.psu.edu](https://parents.psu.edu)

Due to the large number of students moving in during Welcome Week, lodging will be extremely limited in the State College area, especially for fall arrival. Make hotel reservations early to secure a room (page 53).

### ***Roommate and Room Assignments***

- > [eliving.psu.edu](https://eliving.psu.edu)

Room assignment information, including room/building, mailing address, and roommate name and phone number will be posted on eLiving.

- *Summer Session II room assignments will be posted at noon on Monday, June 10.*
- *Fall room assignments will be posted at noon on Tuesday, July 16.*



## Roommate or Room Preferences

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/manage-your-hfs-contract](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/manage-your-hfs-contract)

Your student had the opportunity to indicate housing and roommate preferences on the Housing and Food Services (HFS) Contract until May 15. After this date, changes to your student's preferences cannot be made, as the Housing Assignment Office will begin working on room assignments.

Regardless of when a student accepts the offer of admission, all first-year students will have on-campus housing. Room assignments for first-year students are processed in random order. All students indicated housing options and roommate preferences; however, the University is not able to guarantee these preferences. Some housing preferences are more popular and will have a higher request rate, therefore filling faster than other options. Some students may not be assigned to a room based on preferences indicated on the HFS Contract. Some students may be assigned to supplemental housing (see below).

Once room assignments are posted, your student may use two options in eLiving to make a room assignment change:

### 1. Room Exchange eBoard

The eBoard is available once room assignments are posted and closes about 2-3 weeks before arrival. To use this feature, your student can post their room on the eBoard, review available postings, and submit a request to change assignments with another student.

### 2. Direct Room Exchange

The exchange process is available the week after the semester begins. Your student would be able to request a direct room exchange with a specific student.

There are restrictions for using these options, such as both students must have the same type of HFS Contract. Students with medical accommodations may not be able to use these options.

## Supplemental Housing

> [supplemental.psu.edu](https://supplemental.psu.edu)

On-campus housing at Penn State is in high demand. Utilizing supplemental housing allows Penn State to offer on-campus housing living space to as many students as possible. Supplemental rooms are located on regular residence hall floors and are larger rooms appropriately furnished to accommodate more students in the space. Residents enjoy the same amenities as regular rooms at a lower cost.

## Amenities in Student's Rooms

Your student's living space will have a desk and desk chair, closet/wardrobe, bookshelf, clothes drawer, and a twin-size bed. Most mattresses are extra-long (80" x 36"). All rooms are also equipped with a microwave/freezer/refrigerator unit, window treatments, fire sprinklers, and smoke detector. Students can also access the Penn State WiFi service.

## Items to Bring (or Not Bring)

> [arrival.psu.edu](https://arrival.psu.edu)

Your student should bring sheets (extra-long twin), pillows, towels, blanket or bedspread, computer, desk lamp, padlock, and other items that will help them feel at home. Your student should check with their roommate before arrival to decide who brings which shared items, such as a TV and carpet. Pets, air conditioning units, candles, skateboards, scooters, and some small appliances are not permitted.

## Housing Area Amenities

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/undergraduate-housing](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/undergraduate-housing)

Each housing area offers a dining commons, external bike storage, laundry facilities, mail delivery service at the commons desk, computer labs, meeting rooms, lounge areas with TVs, and Blue Loop bus stops (free for all). Some areas also have snack bars, convenience stores, and an ATM machine.

## Mail and Special Deliveries

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/mail-services](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/mail-services)

Your student can pick up packages at the commons desk in their housing area by showing their Penn State id+ card. Special deliveries, such as flowers, will be delivered the same way. Pizza or other food deliveries can be made to the front door of your student's residence hall. Direct deliveries to rooms and inside halls are prohibited. Packages should not be shipped more than two weeks before the beginning of the semester. We recommend packages be insured and tracked to ensure proper delivery. All packages and deliveries should be addressed to the student's official name using the campus address.

## Safety and Security

### Residence Hall Security

Every residence hall on campus is equipped with an electronic, computerized card-access system that utilizes your student's Penn State id+ card or mobile credentials to gain entry. Only residents of the building can gain access to their assigned building. The system is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

In addition, student auxiliary officers, who work for University Police and Public Safety, are on duty from dusk to dawn every day. Auxiliary officers are responsible for checking for propped doors and monitoring activities in the housing areas.

### Can room doors be locked?

Yes. The University is in progress of updating the locking mechanism on student room doors by installing wireless locks, which allows students to use their id+ card or mobile device to gain entry. There are some rooms that have a traditional lock with a physical room key. Students are urged to keep the door locked. Students who have issues with accessing their room can visit the Commons Desk for assistance. There may be a fee associated with a lock out or a lost room key.

### Can personal items be locked within the room?

Your student will have access to a drawer with a hasp mechanism. Your student will need to supply a padlock to secure items.

### Does the University insure my student's belongings?

The University does not carry insurance on students' personal property. Before coming to campus, check to see if your family's homeowner's insurance policy covers students in University Housing. If your student is not covered, please consider purchasing renter's insurance.

## University Housing Maintenance Issues

> [fixit.psu.edu](https://fixit.psu.edu)

Your student can submit routine maintenance issues (lightbulb replacements, pests, something breaks, etc.) online. For an emergency situation, such as loss of heat or electricity, your student should reach out immediately to their Resident Assistant (RA).

## Housing During Semester Breaks

### **Can my student stay in their room between semesters and during breaks?**

The University closes during three break periods (fall break, end of semester, and spring break), as identified at [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/important-dates](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/important-dates). During these break periods, University Housing closes and all residents are required to leave for the entire period. Personal belongings may be left in the room during the break periods. To accommodate students who are unable to travel home during these time periods or who need to stay on campus during the break periods, Housing offers a Break Access/Holiday HFS Contract.. Learn more at [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/manage-your-hfs-contract#break\\_housing](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/manage-your-hfs-contract#break_housing).

There is a non-refundable additional charge per semester for this service. Rates are available online at [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/rates](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/rates). Students with a Break Access/Holiday Housing Contract will be assigned to designated buildings that are staffed during the breaks. Limited food options are available during break periods. For additional information about break housing or to request a Break Access/Holiday Housing HFS Contract, please contact the Housing Assignment Office at (814) 865.7501.

### **Can my student leave belongings in their room between semesters and during breaks?**

Students may leave their belongings in the room during fall, winter, and spring breaks, if returning to the same room after the break. Students are encouraged to take home valuable items. During the break between spring semester and summer session, and the break between summer session and fall semester, belongings may not be left in student rooms because, in most cases, students will not be returning to the same room. There is no storage available during summer session. Refer to [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/storage-options](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/storage-options) for options.

## RESIDENCE LIFE

### Residence Life

- > (814) 863.1710
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife)

Residence Life is committed to providing a safe, comfortable, and secure living-learning environment that is conducive to students' academic pursuits and personal growth while fostering a sense of community, civic responsibility, and appreciation of diversity. Research indicates that first-year students benefit from living in an environment designed with their needs in mind. Students are encouraged to get to know their Resident Assistant (RA), a student leader specially trained to help with questions and help build a sense of community among residents. In addition, full-time live-in professionals, Residence Life Coordinators, are available 24/7 to provide support and respond to crises.

### Residence Hall Staff and Community Life

#### **Do staff members live in the residence halls?**

Resident Assistants (RAs) and professional Residence Life Coordinators live on-site in the residence hall communities. An RA is an undergraduate student who has been carefully selected and specially trained to help your student transition to both the residence hall and the Penn State community. RAs are responsible for a designated community which means one or two residence hall floors. The RA lives on the floor and is readily accessible to residents. During evening hours, students may also contact the RA on duty if their floor RA is not available.

A Residence Life Coordinator is assigned to each residence hall. The coordinators are full-time professional staff members trained in student development, community building, safety and security, student conduct, and emergency response. Coordinators supervise the RAs and are responsible for helping to create a positive community within the residence halls. A coordinator is available to assist students at any time of the day or night.

#### **How will students get to know each other?**

Students will begin to meet one another during New Student Orientation. After moving to campus, the first opportunity to meet floormates will be at the community meetings hosted by their RA. RAs will also plan a series of programs and activities throughout the semester that will give students a chance to get to know other individuals on their floor. Students should also plan to participate in Welcome Week programming ([welcomeweek.psu.edu](https://welcomeweek.psu.edu)).

#### **Are there Residence Hall activities?**

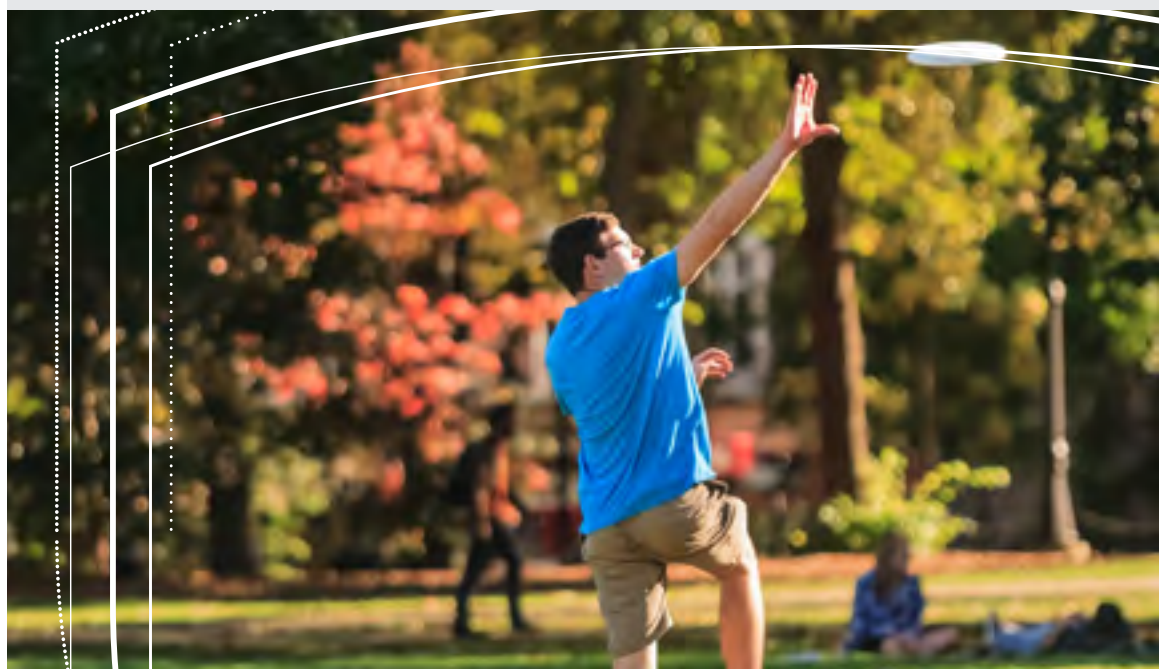
There are regular activities throughout the halls. A weekly newsletter called "Stall Stories" is placed in restrooms and provides information about upcoming activities. RAs and coordinators communicate regularly with students through Penn State email and Microsoft Teams. Students should regularly check bulletin boards in their building and various social media platforms.

#### **What if my student has a roommate problem?**

Students are encouraged to complete a Roommate Agreement form to set expectations and outcomes. If there is a problem, the student needs to talk with the roommate first, as they may not even realize that there is a concern. If that approach does not work, students should go to their RA for assistance in identifying the best approach. The RA can also be helpful in facilitating a discussion between roommates.

#### **Can students have guests in their room?**

At the beginning of the semester, roommates should discuss their feelings about having guests in the room. Students are permitted to have guests in their room only if there is no objection from their roommate. Overnight guests can stay for a maximum of three consecutive nights. If there are any concerns about having guests in the room, it's important to share those concerns with their roommate. It's also a good idea to agree on times when guests will or will not be allowed in the room. Residents are not permitted to have overnight guests in the room prior to the first day of classes. Guests must be escorted at all times.



# FOOD SERVICES

## Food Services

> (814) 863.1255

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/dining](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/dining)

There are over 30 locations on campus where students can eat. The Campus Meal Plan may be used at any on-campus location, although the discount and pricing structure will vary.

## Dining Commons

Each of the five housing areas offers a commons building with dining facilities. The dining commons offer all-you-care-to-eat during specific meal times for a set price, which offers the greatest value when using the Campus Meal Plan. Students may also opt to carry out a meal from the dining commons.

## Residential Dining Locations

In addition to dining commons, there are other dining locations in the commons buildings where students can purchase meals, grab-n-go items, and other convenience items. Purchases at these operations offer a 65% discount off prepared food and beverage purchases. Non-prepared items, such as pre-packaged items (chips, cookies, snacks, etc.) and bottled beverages, do not receive a discount. Items purchased at on-campus convenience stores and many items at coffee shops are not eligible for a discount.

## HUB Dining

There are several dining options available in the HUB-Robeson Center, including Starbucks, Burger King, Panda Express, as well as pizza, soup and salad bar, and sandwiches.

## Other Locations

The Campus Meal Plan is accepted at other locations throughout campus, such as coffee shops, Café Laura, Berkey Creamery, Panera, Beaver Stadium, Bryce Jordan Center, Pegula Ice Arena, and more. No discount is offered at these locations.

## Food Options and Ordering

### Are healthy choices and vegetarian/vegan menu items available?

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/nutrition](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/nutrition)

Healthy food and beverage choices are available in many locations across campus. Nutritional information for menu items offered at the dining commons is posted for each menu item and is available online at [menu.hfs.psu.edu](https://menu.hfs.psu.edu). Vegetarian and vegan menu items are also indicated on the menu information cards. The Penn State Go app offers quick access to daily menus at the dining commons.

### Are Kosher or Halal menu items available?

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/allergies-special-diets](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/allergies-special-diets)

Halal and Kosher items are offered in our dining facilities and are clearly marked on entree cards and online menus.

### How does the University handle special diets or food allergies?

> (814) 863.3420

> [foodallergies@psu.edu](mailto:foodallergies@psu.edu)

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/allergies-special-diets](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/allergies-special-diets)

The dining commons feature a variety of menu options, and staff will try to accommodate reasonable requests, but it is not possible to provide for all special diets. Menu information cards are posted for each menu item and will include allergen information for the nine most common allergens: dairy, egg, fish, shellfish, peanut, tree nuts, soy, wheat/gluten, and sesame. The University's Registered Dietitian's office is available to assist students with navigating food services and menu options.

### Are there items that parents and family members can order for delivery to students?

> [pennstatebakery.com](https://pennstatebakery.com)

The Penn State Bakery offers the "Special Delivery" program featuring cookies, cakes, and other delicious items freshly prepared and delivered to your student's Housing Area Commons Desk for pickup. Place orders a minimum of three days in advance.

### Is mobile ordering offered?

> [pennstateeats.psu.edu](https://pennstateeats.psu.edu)

Penn State Eats is Penn State's mobile ordering accessed on the Penn State Go app. Many on-campus dining locations offer mobile ordering.

## Campus Meal Plan

> [liveon.psu.edu/university-park/meal-plans](https://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/meal-plans)

Your student is required to purchase the Campus Meal Plan for both semesters while living on campus. The Campus Meal Plan is comprised of two cost components, the base cost and dining dollars, with the total amount being charged to your student's LionPATH account. The Campus Meal Plan can be used at any location on campus and is set up as a declining account balance (similar to a debit card).

## Campus Meal Plan Levels

There are three meal plan levels available; the HFS Contract defaults to level two. Each student's eating habits vary, and many students do not eat the standard three meals/day, due to academic schedules, activities, and travel. A general guideline is that level one offers 7-10 meals per week; level two offers 12-14; and level three offers 16-19. Level two is recommended to start off with and can be adjusted once your student develops a routine.

## Keeping Track of Campus Meal Plan Dining Dollars

After your student makes a purchase, the remaining combined balance of dining dollars and LionCash is displayed at the cash register. Account balances and transaction history are also available at [idcard.psu.edu](https://idcard.psu.edu).

## What if my student has extra leftover dining dollars at the end of the semester?

If your student has a fall Campus Meal Plan, any remaining dining dollars left over at the end of summer session are automatically carried over to the fall semester plan. At the end of fall semester, the balance is carried over to the spring semester plan provided your student has accepted a spring Campus Meal Plan. If your student leaves the University (withdrawal, graduation, study abroad, etc.), any remaining balance is forfeited. At the end of spring semester, any remaining dining dollars are forfeited. Dining dollars may not be used to purchase gift cards. To avoid having remaining dining dollars, your student can adjust the Campus Meal Plan level for both fall and spring semesters until the last day of finals. Adding funds to LionCash instead of the Campus Meal Plan eliminates the possibility of forfeiting any remaining dining dollars at the end of the semester.

## What if my student runs out of Campus Meal Plan dining dollars before the semester ends?

If your student is running low on dining dollars, funds may be added to LionCash. Cash registers at on-campus dining facilities will automatically check your student's Campus Meal Plan account balance. If there are not enough funds available, the system will then deduct from LionCash. These transactions will be processed with the same discounts as meal plan pricing.

## When does my student select a Campus Meal Plan level for spring semester?

Beginning October 1, your student will have the opportunity to adjust the Campus Meal Plan level for spring semester. Adjustments made prior to December 30 will be reflected on the spring student account. Changes after that will be applied to the next billing cycle (typically the next month).

# HOUSING OPTIONS AFTER THE FIRST YEAR

## Living On Campus

> [studentaffairs.psu.edu/housing](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/housing)

Living on campus offers many conveniences and amenities for students. First-year students are required to live on campus and have the option to return to University Housing for sophomore year. Upper-class students have a larger variety of on-campus housing options to select from, including single rooms, suites, and apartments. Students who are interested in living on campus will be able to request housing through the eLiving system during the established timeframe in the fall semester. All students who request on-campus housing will receive an invitation to view available housing options, select space, then create/accept a Housing and Food Service (HFS) Contract. In addition to webinars and information tabling events held during the semester, information sessions are offered during Parents and Families Weekend to assist you and your student in understanding the process.

## Fraternity and Sorority Housing

> [studentaffairs.psu.edu/greeks](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/greeks)

The University provides on-campus housing in South Halls for many of the Panhellenic Council (PHC) sorority chapters. Many Interfraternity Council (IFC) fraternity chapters have off-campus housing facilities that are owned and operated by alumni from each organization. Penn State's National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) fraternity and sorority chapters currently do not offer formal group living spaces, however, the University is open to providing this opportunity in the future. Students can learn more about fraternity and sorority housing options on the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life's website.

Students considering joining a sorority or fraternity that offer group living opportunities should expect to live within the chapter's community (South Halls for PHC sororities or the chapter's off-campus facility for IFC fraternities) for the entire academic year during their first year of membership, so it is important to think about these options when making a housing decision.

- If a student knows that they want to live on campus next year, regardless of the sorority or fraternity recruitment process, they should participate in the LiveOn Housing Process.
- If a student only wants to live on campus if they receive a bid from a Panhellenic Council sorority, they should **not** sign a lease or a Housing and Food Service (HFS) contract until they complete the process and accept a bid.

The LiveOn Housing Process in eLiving stays open through mid-February, so students have time to make a decision if they receive a bid to join one of the fraternity or sorority communities. If students want to live on campus they should act quickly after bid day to make sure they request housing by February 15.

## Living Off Campus

Downtown State College and the surrounding area provide robust housing options for students interested in living off campus.

## Off-Campus Student Support

- > 222 Boucke Building
- > (814) 865.2346
- > [livingoffcampus.psu.edu](http://livingoffcampus.psu.edu)

Off-Campus Student Support provides resources and information about living off campus. Resources and services to help students with their off-campus housing search include:

- A searchable online listing service to help your student find and compare available properties and a roommate posting service.
- Professional staff are available to meet with students who request additional assistance with their housing search.
- A Housing Fair each semester that brings together landlords, property managers, on-campus housing representatives, community officials, and University resources. The Housing Fairs provide a low-pressure environment where students and their families can ask questions, see what types of units are available, schedule apartment tours, and learn more about the rental process. The Fall Housing Fair occurs on the Sunday of Parents and Families Weekend.

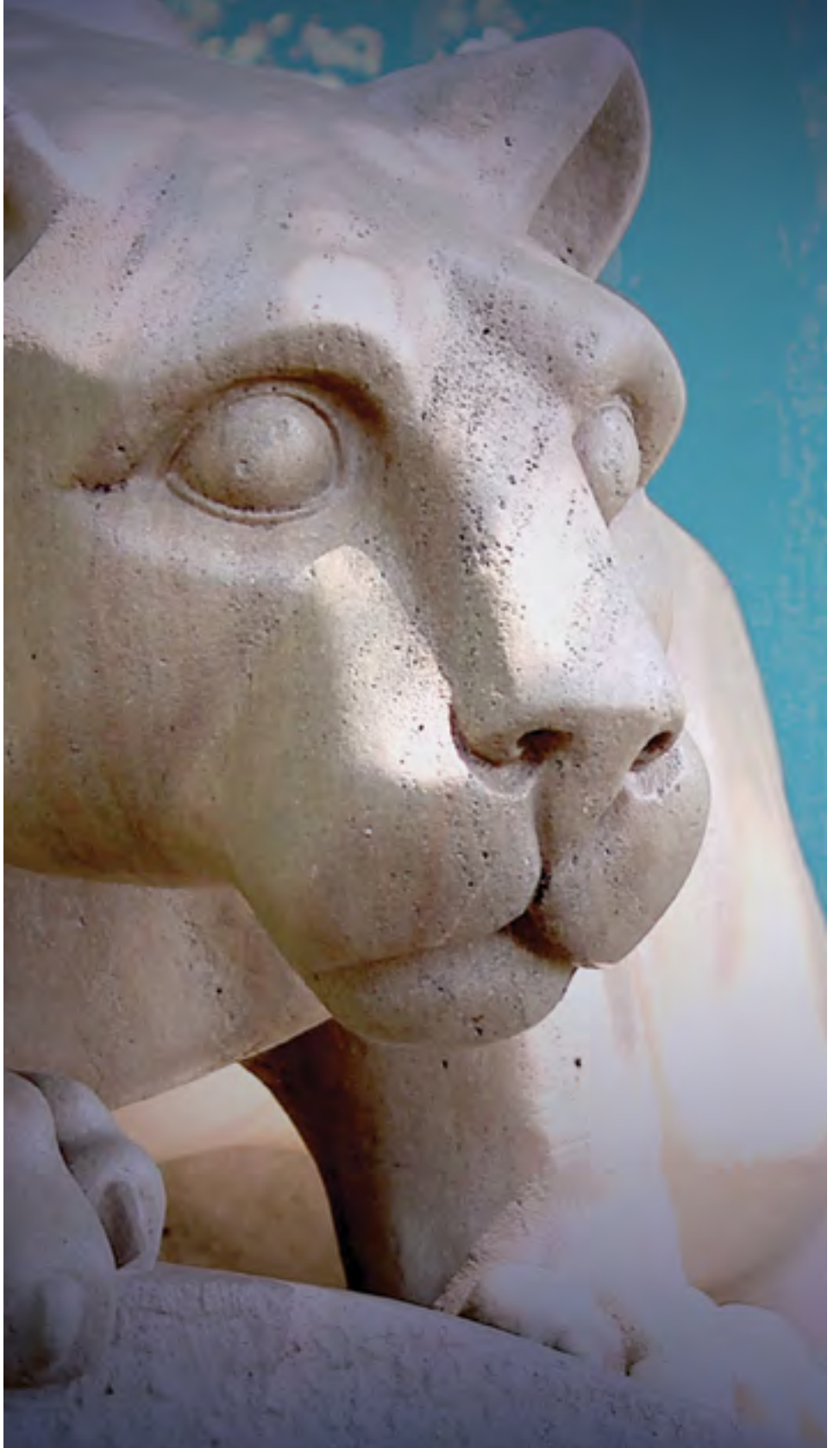
## Are parents involved in the off-campus housing process?

You are an important resource as students navigate a process that is often new to them. Most landlords will require that a parent, family member, or other person sign the lease as a guarantor unless the student can show they can pay the rent through their own employment income. Some ways you can help your student:

- Use caution before signing a lease. There is no need to sign an expensive contract/lease before you and your student are ready. Many locations fill in early fall, but others remain available into the spring semester. We recommend not waiting until summer to sign a lease, as inventory tends to be extremely low at that point.
- Leases are binding contracts. Once signed, your student (and their co-signer) will be responsible to pay the rent. Students and family members who guarantee the contract should fully understand the obligation before signing.
- Encourage your student to stop by Student Legal Services (page 30) for a free lease review.



# HEALTH & SAFETY



- > [University Health Services](#)
- > [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- > [Smart and Safe at State](#)
- > [Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- > [University Police and Public Safety](#)
- > [Alcohol and Drug Laws](#)

# UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

- > Student Health Center, Bigler Road
- > (814) 865.4UHS (4847)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/health](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health)

Staying healthy is a vital part of a successful college experience and University Health Services (UHS) can help.

UHS is an all-inclusive health care service at University Park offering medical, pharmacy, lab, imaging, physical therapy, medical records, insurance, emergency services, community health programming, and student health navigators in one convenient on-campus location. UHS operates as a primary care office that offers medical exams for acute illness/injury and pre-existing conditions. Our clinicians commonly treat sore throats, fever, viral infections, asthma, allergies, headaches, and a variety of other conditions. UHS offers additional on-site health services for your student's convenience.

UHS understands that a student's first time navigating a medical appointment alone may be when they seek medical care on campus. Students are encouraged to know their medical history, allergies, current medications, and family's medical history in preparation for an appointment at UHS. Students should keep a copy of their health insurance and prescription plan cards with them.

The primary method of communication between UHS and your student is through secure messaging within the myUHS portal, and students will be alerted by email to check these messages.

UHS recommends that students pack basic medical supplies to bring with them to campus: thermometer, over-the-counter pain/fever reducers such as acetaminophen and/or ibuprofen, cough drops, and other cold symptom relief medications. In addition, students are asked to bring a minimum of four COVID-19 at-home test kits and a box of disposable masks.

## Appointments

- > (814) 865.4UHS (4847), Option 2
- > [myUHS](#)

Like your home doctor's office, UHS operates by appointment only and does not accept walk-ins. Students can schedule appointments online through myUHS, the secure patient portal, or by calling during regular business hours. Same-day appointments are often available for acute medical problems, and appointments for routine health concerns, physicals, and sexual and reproductive health exams are generally available within a few days.

## 24/7 Advice Nurse

- > (814) 865.4UHS (4847), Option 3

Students can speak with an experienced telephone advice nurse 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to have their urgent health concerns addressed. The after 5:00 p.m. line utilizes a call center available for advice only and does not have the capability to schedule UHS appointments.

## Emergencies

- > Call 911
- > [mountnittany.org](http://mountnittany.org)

In the event of a health or medical emergency, students are advised to call 911 or go directly to Mount Nittany Medical Center, located approximately two miles north of campus.

## UHS Hours of Operation

Day	Hours
Monday - Friday	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday*	11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. <small>*During fall and spring semesters only</small>

## Social Media

- **Instagram**  
StudentWellnessPSU
- **Facebook**  
Penn State Student Health & Wellness
- ✕ **X (formerly Twitter)**  
StudentWellnessPSU





# UHS SERVICES

## Accreditation

> [AAAHC.org](https://www.aaaahc.org)

UHS is accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC).

## Allergy Clinic

UHS provides allergy care to eligible Penn State students. To obtain allergy care, students must be under the care of a UHS clinician. Students can establish care by scheduling an initial appointment. The student agreement for allergy immunotherapy administration and the referring allergist agreement must be completed and signed before receiving allergy injections at UHS.

## Billing and Fees

While UHS operates primarily under a fee-for-service model, certain services, such as commonly ordered lab tests that are performed in-house, are covered at no additional cost to students through generous funding from the Student Fee Board. UHS participates with a limited number of health insurance carriers. Please contact your health insurance carrier to determine if UHS is in your provider network. When contacting your insurance carrier, use the following information to determine network status (NPI: 1316063126, Tax ID: 24-6000376). Regardless of network status, UHS will bill most insurances as a courtesy. Please remind your student to upload their health insurance information to UHS before receiving services. Students may pay by check, LionCash, debit, or credit cards (Visa/MasterCard/Discover/American Express), or have the charge billed to their Penn State student account.

## Clinicians

UHS clinical staff includes physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. All UHS physicians are board-certified. Detailed staff bios and credentials are available online.

## Community Health

Community Health is a crucial aspect of student well-being and overall campus life. It involves fostering an environment that prioritizes physical and mental health, creating a collaborative and supportive community, which promotes healthy behaviors among students. Initiatives such as wellness programs, access to counseling services and health education campaigns contribute to our holistic approach.

Community Health addresses issues such as Healthy Eating and Living Support (HEALS), gender diverse care, vaccine education, navigating health care, infection control, and mitigating communicable diseases. Encouraging open communication about health-related topics and reducing stigma around seeking help are vital components of a community focused on well-being. By prioritizing community health, we not only contribute to the immediate welfare

of our students but also empower them to lead healthier lives beyond the campus environment.

Student Health Navigators assist students in finding needed community resources, understanding how to receive mental health care both on and off campus, and figuring out insurance benefits. They also serve on specialized teams to assist our gender diverse and eating disordered students in accessing the more intensive services they deserve. They do everything with the exception of diagnosing, and often act as gatekeepers for our medical providers in performing initial screenings to determine appropriate vehicles of care. Having the navigator allows clinical services to see more "at risk" patients while the navigators handle the referral and getting students the assistance needed.

## Confidentiality

It is understandable that as a concerned parent you may want access to information about your student's care. However, patient confidentiality standards (HIPAA: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and FERPA: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) prohibit University Health Services from sharing medical information without the student's written authorization. When there is a life-threatening situation in which a student is so ill that they are unable to provide authorization, both HIPAA and FERPA allow the university to release information. This is the only exception.

## Excuses (Missing Class due to Illness)

UHS clinicians do not provide illness verification to instructors for routine illnesses. For routine illnesses, the decision to miss a class or activity is at the student's discretion, and the student should email or call the instructor as soon as possible. UHS clinicians may provide verification of a significant, prolonged illness or injury if care was received at UHS.

## Emergency Services

UHS Ambulance Service responds to medical emergencies on the University Park campus and within the local community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The UHS Ambulance Service is one of the oldest known collegiate emergency medical services in the country and is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The crew is staffed with certified student emergency medical technicians and emergency response professionals. Each year, the UHS Ambulance Service responds to approximately 1,500 ambulance calls.

If a student experiences a serious or life-threatening medical emergency on campus, they should dial 911. The closest medical center is Mount Nittany Medical Center, located approximately two miles from campus. All charges related to the ambulance service to hospital care (emergency and inpatient services) are the patient's responsibility.

## Imaging Studies

UHS offers convenient Ultrasound and digital general X-ray. Patients must have an order from a UHS clinician or an outside health care provider to request services. Ultrasound and X-ray services are available by appointment or at the time of visit.

## Laboratory

UHS has an on-site clinical lab available to all registered students. Commonly ordered tests, such as blood work and urinalysis, are performed in the UHS lab and can be ordered by UHS or outside clinician. Quest Diagnostics lab is used for less commonly ordered tests. Lab services are available by appointment or at the time of visit.

## Pharmacy

> [studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/pharmacy](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/pharmacy)

Prescription services, over-the-counter medications, and health care products are available at the UHS Pharmacy. Our on-site pharmacy will fill prescriptions that are written, e-prescribed, or faxed to 814-863-5371 by your student's provider. Students can refill prescriptions with our Penn State UHS Pharmacy mobileRx app or through the UHS website. Your student should present a current prescription insurance card when filling prescriptions.

## Physical Therapy

Physical therapy services are available by appointment. Direct access (self-referral) is available to students who meet the criteria. Check with your insurance provider to confirm direct access allowance.

## Preventive Health

Students are encouraged to reduce the risk of serious illness by making healthy lifestyle choices and getting recommended immunizations. Students can make preventive health appointments at UHS for allergy injections, contraception counseling, immunizations, nutrition counseling, sexual health, and more.

## Travel Clinic

The UHS Travel Clinic offers appointments to members of the Penn State community who are planning international travel. Travel appointments include education regarding health and safety as well as recommended vaccines for the intended travel destination(s).

## Volunteer Opportunities

Student volunteer opportunities are available in clinical services, emergency services, and physical therapy.



## IMMUNIZATION AND HEALTH HISTORY RECORDS

All incoming Penn State students must provide proof of immunization against **measles, mumps, and rubella**. In accordance with Pennsylvania state law, students living in on-campus housing must also provide proof of the **meningococcal conjugate vaccine** (Menveo, Menactra, MCV4, and MenQuadfi), which protects against infections caused by serogroups A, C, W, and Y.

Some students, such as student-athletes or students in certain health-related majors may be asked to submit additional immunization information. These students must also submit official immunization records using the process below.

### How to Submit

- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/medical-services/immunizations](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/medical-services/immunizations)

Students should log into myUHS using their Penn State access credentials, enter their required vaccination dates and upload a copy of their official immunization records, and, if applicable, any positive antibody blood test results (titers). **All immunization records must be in English.**

### Other Recommended Vaccines

In addition to the required vaccines, Penn State also strongly recommends that students receive the following vaccines:

- *Serogroup B meningococcal*
- *Varicella (chickenpox)*
- *Tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap)*
- *Hepatitis B*
- *Hepatitis A*
- *Human papillomavirus (HPV)*
- *Pneumococcal*
- *Annual influenza (flu) vaccine*
- *COVID-19 vaccines*

UHS provides vaccinations for students by appointment and by offering clinics.

Students are also encouraged to complete the online health history form in myUHS.

## STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/health-insurance](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/health-insurance)

Adequate health insurance provides students with security and an enhanced sense of well-being during their time at Penn State. For this reason, the University requires all international students to have health insurance and strongly recommends that all U.S. students have health insurance coverage that is accepted by providers on or near the campus they attend.

Each year, students are required to submit health insurance coverage through LionPATH. If your student does not currently have adequate coverage, we highly encourage them to enroll in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) for Penn State. The SHIP for Penn State is designed specifically for students and offers comprehensive health insurance at a competitive price with a wide network of providers across the United States.

Penn State recognizes that financial insecurity has a detrimental impact on both a student's academic performance and their overall health. Student Health Insurance has collaborated with the Office of Student Care and Advocacy to help more adequately address student needs related to health insurance coverage and other financial concerns. If your student would like support in seeking affordable healthcare or needs help securing basic needs (food, housing, etc.) as a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, complete the Basic Needs Assistance Request Form at [studentaffairs.psu.edu/basic-needs-support](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/basic-needs-support).

# COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)

- > 501 Student Health Center
- > (814) 863.0395
- > (877) 229.6400 (24/7 CRISIS LINE)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling)

College student concerns can vary widely, and some emotional stress can be expected at this developmental phase of life. CAPS offers multiple pathways for students to get the help, support, and connection to resources that will best support their mental health and wellness needs. These options include and reach far beyond individual counseling.

CAPS provides students with a range of services, including:

- *Wellness platforms (WellTrack Boost, Virtual Library) for self-paced mental health support and self-care*
- *Life Hack Kits: step-by-step virtual wellness packages and lively virtual workshops*
- *Drop-in support groups (Women of Color Empowerment, Black and Latino Male Empowerment, SMART Recovery, Interfaith Dialogues, and more)*
- *CAPS Chat: Drop-in, non-urgent, half-hour meetings with a CAPS clinician*
- *Long-term group therapy*
- *Four-session skill-based clinics on topics such as anxiety, mindfulness, perfectionism, and more*

- *Short-term individual counseling*
- *Rapid access appointments for urgent concerns*
- *Evaluations for psychiatric medication and medication management*

As the primary mental health provider for Penn State students, CAPS' mission is to support students' mental health and well-being as they pursue their academic and career goals. Essential to this mission is fostering a welcoming and affirming environment that honors diversity and values individual and cultural differences.

CAPS' professional staff includes psychologists, psychiatric providers, case managers, clinical social workers, a marriage and family therapist, professional counselors, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate-level trainees. Services are confidential and most services are available at no cost to enrolled, full-time students.

Students are strongly encouraged to access wellness resources to help maintain and manage overall wellbeing. Wellness platforms such as WellTrack Boost and the Virtual Library are accessible options for students to address self-help and self-care at their convenience. Life Hack Kits are virtual workshops available in both synchronous and asynchronous formats to address student needs at one's own pace. CAPS Chat is a one-on-one opportunity to meet with a CAPS clinician for non-urgent concerns.

In addition to short-term individual and couples counseling, CAPS offers long-term group therapy. Interpersonal process groups provide support for many common concerns, such as self-advocacy, assertiveness, and setting boundaries.

For students seeking more targeted support with a specific concern, four-session Skills Clinics may be beneficial. In these 90-minute, once-weekly Skills Clinics, 6-8 students engage in a blend of education and skill practice in the specific topic area. Skills Clinic topics commonly include perfectionism, mindfulness, and anxiety management.

While CAPS offers a multitude of resources, a student's needs may be best met beyond CAPS. CAPS commonly refers students to other resources on campus and clinical providers in the local community.

Drop-in support and discussion groups are also available in collaboration with our campus partners, such as the Multicultural Resource Center, Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development, Health Promotion and Wellness, and Collegiate Recovery Community.

Penn State's Crisis Line is available 24/7 for students, as well as parents, faculty, staff, or others to call if urgently concerned about a Penn State student.



# SMART AND SAFE AT STATE

## Health Promotion and Wellness

- > 102 HUB-Robeson Center
- > (814) 863.0461
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-promotion](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-promotion)

Health Promotion and Wellness (HPW) helps students get healthy and stay healthy. The staff and student volunteers provide services and conduct educational programs. HPW provides the following services:

### Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS)

BASICS is a harm-reduction program. BASICS consists of two one-hour sessions conducted by a professional staff person. Students with first-time alcohol violations or an alcohol-related emergency department visit are required to complete the program. The program fee is \$250. Students who do not have a violation or emergency department visit, can take the program for free.

### Cannabis Screening and Education for College Students (CASECS)

CASECS consists of individual educational sessions about cannabis. Students who have a violation are required to complete CASECS and pay the \$250 program fee. Students who are concerned about their cannabis use and do not have a violation can take CASECS for free.

### Nutrition Clinic

Free, individual nutrition counseling is available to Penn State students through the Nutrition Clinic. Services are provided by a registered dietitian for a range of concerns including, but not limited to, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, and digestive disorders. The dietitians can also help students develop and maintain a healthy diet while on a limited budget.

### Nicotine Cessation

This free service is designed to help students quit smoking or vaping using a research-based approach.

### Wellness Services

Wellness services help students learn new information and develop healthy behaviors. Trained peer educators deliver the services. Topics include healthy relationships and sexual health, nutrition, sleep, and stress.

### Problem Gambling

This free, research-based service is designed to give students feedback about gambling behaviors and harm reduction strategies for problem gambling.

## Talking with your Student about Alcohol

Students preparing to attend college have already taken several steps toward independence. Deciding where to go to college, what career path to pursue, and how to finance an education are all choices on the path to learning how to be an adult. College students still need and value their family's guidance as they make decisions about their future. One of those decisions is about alcohol use at college. Parents and family members are one of the best sources of advice on the issue.

### The First Six Weeks

Based on national research about college student drinking, many new students are likely to begin or increase alcohol use during the first six weeks. Even students who did not drink in high school may feel pressure to do so in college. Talk with your student about avoiding underage drinking while in college.

Research suggests that students who talk with their parents and families about alcohol avoidance strategies before they begin the first year of college are more likely to avoid alcohol, limit its use, and spend less time with heavy-drinking peers.

## Facts about Alcohol Use Among College Students

### National

- 31% of college students meet the criteria for a diagnosis of alcohol abuse
- 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die each year from alcohol-related injuries
- 599,000 experience a non-fatal, unintentional injury under the influence of alcohol
- 97,000 students are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or rape each year

### Penn State

- 58% report engaging in high-risk drinking\*
- 69% had to babysit a student who drank too much
- 12% have been a victim of an unwanted sexual experience
- 55% report blacking out at least once in the last year
- 23% report getting behind in school work due to alcohol use

\*High-risk, or binge drinking, is defined as having four or more drinks in two hours for women and five or more drinks in two hours for men.

## Risky Behaviors Include:

- Underage drinking
- Drinking (pre-gaming) before going out
- Chugging alcohol, doing shots, and participating in drinking games
- Choosing drinks with a higher alcohol concentration

## Warning Signs of a Potential Problem:

- Missing work, school, or other responsibilities
- Specific school problems such as poor attendance, low grades, and/or disciplinary action
- Drinking in physically dangerous situations, including drinking and driving
- Having recurring alcohol-related legal problems, such as being arrested for underage drinking or for physically hurting someone while drunk
- Mood changes, such as temper flareups, irritability, and defensiveness
- Physical or mental problems, such as memory lapses, poor concentration, bloodshot eyes, lack of coordination, or slurred speech

## How You Can Help

Penn State has a wide range of initiatives in place to better understand, treat, and diminish the negative impact that dangerous drinking can have on students and their potential for success. As a parent, you also play a role in helping your student make good choices about drinking. Your influence can have a positive impact on your student's safety, health, and well-being.

## Start the Conversation

When talking with your student about alcohol, look for opportunities to raise the topic naturally. Discussions about majors and course selection can lead to a conversation about the ways alcohol can disrupt academic success and career options. Buying items for your student's residence hall room can turn into talking about how to handle situations where alcohol use by other students might create a problem, such as interrupted study time, babysitting a drunk roommate, or unwanted sexual advances.

Familiarize yourself with how alcohol affects the body and brain of young adults. Take some time to evaluate your attitudes, values, and beliefs about alcohol and drinking. Establish open communication to make it easy for your student to talk honestly with you. Show your student that you care about their success in college, both academically and socially.

## Talk with your student about:

- *How alcohol affects the body and negative consequences of high-risk drinking*
- *Your expectations around alcohol use*
- *Why students drink or don't drink*
- *Alternative activities*
- *Impact of drinking on health and academic success*
- *Penn State's alcohol policy*
- *Pennsylvania's alcohol laws*
- *Penn State's Code of Conduct*
- *Penn State's Responsible Action Protocol*

## Your Role

Understand Penn State's Parent and Family Notification Policy (page 47), make sure your student completes Penn State Safe and Aware, and encourage conversations by asking nonjudgmental and open-ended questions. This allows your student the opportunity to express how they think and feel about college pressures, being away from home, and facing new situations. Below are some conversation starters for discussing issues your student may face.

## Conversation Starters

- *How will you decide whether or not to drink?*
- *How will you handle it if you feel pressure to drink? What will you say?*
- *If a roommate drinks excessively and the partying affects your sleep and studying, what will you do?*
- *What will you do if a friend you are with passes out because of excessive drinking?*
- *How will you handle it if you are asked to babysit someone who is very drunk?*

## Stay Connected After Your Student Leaves for College

- *Stay involved with your student's life*
- *Call your student frequently during the first six weeks of college, especially on weekends*
- *Ask questions about your student's alcohol use*
- *Learn about your student's roommates and their new friends*
- *Encourage your student to get involved in activities and organizations on campus*

## Penn State Safe and Aware

> <https://safeaware.psu.edu>

Penn State Safe and Aware is an interactive, online learning module that incoming students are required to complete before arriving to campus. The module provides information about alcohol, the alcohol laws in Pennsylvania, and Penn State's alcohol and drug policies. It also includes information about sexual assault, the sexual violence laws in Pennsylvania, and Penn State's resources for victims of sexual violence.

Students should complete Penn State Safe and Aware by:

- *June 26, 2024 (summer students)*
- *August 26, 2024 (fall students)*
- *January 8, 2025 (spring students)*

Explore the family version at [parents.safeaware.psu.edu](https://parents.safeaware.psu.edu).

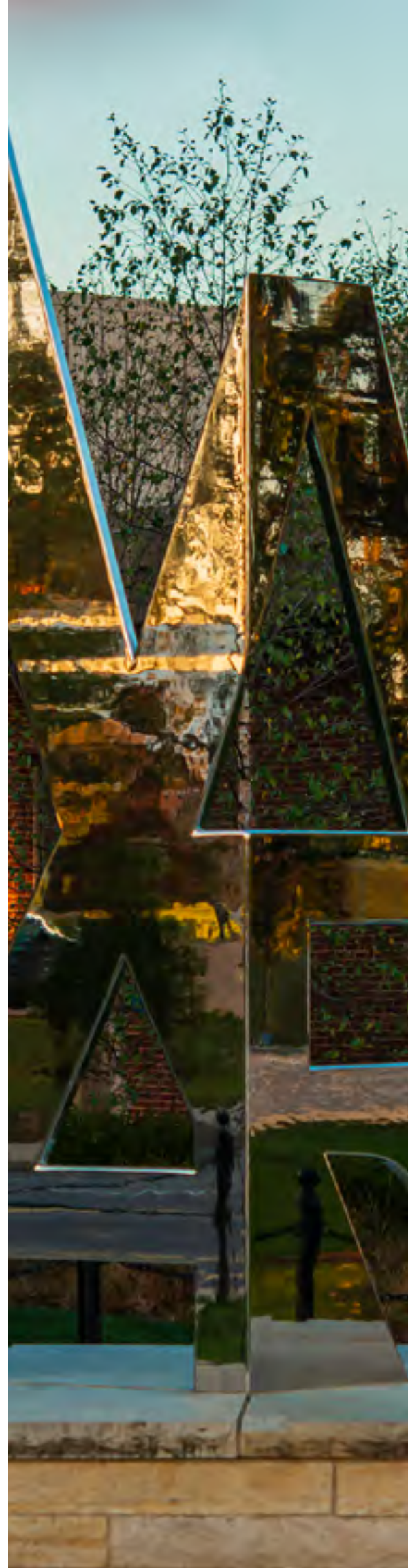
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Portions of this section come from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2015). Talking with your college-bound young adult about alcohol. U.S. Health and Human Services. Washington, DC. [samhsa.gov](https://www.samhsa.gov)

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. (2010). What parents need to know about college drinking." National Institutes of Health. Bethesda, Maryland. [www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov](https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov)

Turrisi, R., Mallett, K.A., Cleveland, M., Warvil-Weld, L., Abar, C.C., Scaglione, N. and Hultgren, B. (2013). An evaluation of timing and dosage of a parent-based intervention to minimize college students' alcohol consumption. *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*, 74(1), 30-40.

Turrisi, Rob. (2010). A parent handbook for talking with college students about alcohol. The Pennsylvania State University. University Park, PA.





## RESPONSIBLE ACTION PROTOCOL

The safety of our students is of paramount importance, and it is critical that the university create an environment that is conducive to reporting sexual misconduct and seeking emergency assistance for hazing-related injuries and other serious medical issues. While the university does not condone underage drinking, illegal drug use, or other violations of university policy or the law, the university understands that students may hesitate to get help for themselves and others when they are worried about the potential consequences, including student conduct action. Consequently, the university has established the following protocols for those who choose to prioritize safety.

### Emergency Protocol: Alcohol and other Drugs

A student who takes the initiative to get assistance by notifying the appropriate authorities (e.g., calling 911, alerting a resident assistant, or contacting police) AND meets one or more of the criteria below, will typically not be subject to student conduct action for their own use or possession of alcohol or other drugs. The student will, however, be required to complete an appropriate alcohol or drug related educational intervention; any associated fees will be waived. This protocol may be appropriate when:

- *A student seeks medical assistance for themselves when experiencing an alcohol or drug overdose, or related problems.*
- *A student seeks medical assistance for a peer experiencing an alcohol or drug overdose, or related problems, AND remains with that peer until the appropriate authorities arrive.*
- *A student experiencing an alcohol or drug overdose, or related problems, for whom another student seeks assistance.*

Students who are, or know someone who is, struggling with substance misuse are encouraged to access resources and support available through Penn State Health Promotion and Wellness, the Collegiate Recovery Community, and Counseling and Psychological Services.

### Emergency Protocol: Hazing

A student who takes the initiative to get assistance by notifying the appropriate authorities (e.g., calling 911, alerting a resident assistant, or contacting police) AND meets the criteria below, will typically not be subject to student conduct action for hazing. The student will, however, be required to complete appropriate educational interventions to prevent the recurrence of the reported behavior. This protocol may be appropriate when:

- *A student seeks medical assistance for a peer based on a reasonable belief that the person was in need of immediate medical attention to prevent death or serious injury;*
- *the student provides their name; and*
- *the student remains with that peer until the appropriate authorities arrive.*

At all times, students are encouraged to notify the University as soon as possible when they become aware that hazing has, or may, occur. Reports can be filed with the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response, or submitted anonymously to the Office of Ethics and Compliance.

### Reporting Sexual Misconduct Protocol

A student who makes a report to the University or other appropriate authority (e.g., law enforcement) about experiencing sexual misconduct, or is reporting the experience of another, will typically not be subject to student conduct action related to their own possession or consumption of alcohol or other drugs in connection with the reported incident. As appropriate, involved students may be required to complete an educational intervention to address concerns about the student's substance use; any associated fees will be waived.

At all times, students are encouraged to notify the University as soon as possible when they become aware that sexual misconduct has, or may, occur. Reports can be filed with the Office of Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Response, or submitted anonymously to the Office of Ethics and Compliance.

When student exhibits a pattern of problematic and/or high-risk behavior, or when the behavior involves other serious alleged violations of the Student Code of Conduct, the University may determine it is appropriate to initiate formal student conduct action in lieu of, or in addition to, these protocols.

# STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

## Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response

- > 120 Boucke Building
- > (814) 863.0342
- > [studentaccountability@psu.edu](mailto:studentaccountability@psu.edu)
- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability)

The Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response (OSACR) works to uphold community and university standards through compassionate interventions in which students are heard, respected, and treated with dignity. These students, including student organization leaders, have the developmental opportunity to participate in fair and impartial resolution processes which encourage personal accountability and responsible decision-making, promote reflection and restoration, and reduce and prevent behavior which undermines student success and community safety.

## Student Code of Conduct

- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/code-procedures](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/code-procedures)

The OSACR is responsible for the oversight and implementation of the Student Code of Conduct and related written procedures. The Code outlines community standards for student behavior, both on- and off-campus, while the written procedures explain how alleged violations of the Code are managed within the student conduct process.

When a student or student organization is named in a report and/or participates in a resolution process, a record is created and maintained by OSACR. For more information regarding the maintenance and distribution of Conduct records visit [studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/resources/students#records](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/resources/students#records).

In addition to managing formal allegations of misconduct, the OSACR also offers a wide range of Adaptable Resolutions and Conflict Response options. For more information about these resolution options, please contact the office or encourage your student to speak with the case manager assigned to their case.

## Parent and Family Notification Policy

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), colleges and universities are afforded certain liberties relative to notifying parents or guardians of information concerning their student. In order to involve students' families in the total educational experience of the student and to facilitate communication between students and their parents/legal guardians, OSACR has established a notification and disclosure policy. The goals of this policy are:

- To clarify when notification and/or disclosure may be appropriate
- To partner with families in support of their student

- To identify additional supportive points of intervention for students

When a dependent student accepts responsibility for a violation or is found in violation of the Code, a notification letter will typically be sent to their parent or guardian in the following circumstances:

- There was a "Substance Use Misconduct" violation, and the student is under 21
- The Action Plan includes Suspension, Expulsion, and/or Loss of Housing (including those administrative sanctions issued in a conditional status)

This letter summarizes the outcome of the process and lists the official University violation(s) and outcomes. It is recommended that the first response to receiving this letter is initiating a conversation with your student. Follow-up questions can then be directed to the case manager in OSACR.

Absent unusual circumstances which qualify as an exception to FERPA, the University does not notify parents and/or guardians of students who are not dependent students.

For more information regarding Parent and Family Notification and Disclosure visit [studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/resources/family-support](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability/resources/family-support).

## Pennsylvania's Antihazing Law

In 2018, Pennsylvania adopted the Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Law which:

- Establishes a tiered penalty with stricter punishments for hazing (including felony-level violations)
- Holds individuals and organizations accountable for hazing
- Requires schools to publish anti-hazing policies and publicly report hazing violations ([universityethics.psu.edu](https://universityethics.psu.edu))

To the extent possible, any student, organization, faculty or staff member, contractor, or volunteer of the University will be held accountable for hazing-related violations both by the University and by the appropriate law enforcement agency. Any allegations of hazing should be reported to the University's Office of Ethics and Compliance or the OSCAR, in addition to the University Police.

The Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Law, in addition to Pennsylvania's medical amnesty law, provide immunity from prosecution when a student seeks help for themselves or others who need medical attention. See page 51 for more detail on when medical amnesty applies. Students who seek help may also avoid formal student conduct action under the Penn State Responsible Action Protocol ([studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/alcohol-amnesty](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/alcohol-amnesty)).

## Academic Integrity at Penn State

Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at Penn State, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, copying, plagiarism, fabrication of information or citations, facilitation of acts of academic misconduct by others, unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, and tampering with the academic work of other students.

## Free Speech

- > [knowyourrightsandresponsibilities.psu.edu](https://knowyourrightsandresponsibilities.psu.edu)

As a public university, Penn State must protect free speech, even when viewpoints offend community members or the institution's values. The primary purpose of a university is to discover and disseminate knowledge and this can only occur if freedom of expression is honored. Even words and other expressions that many people would consider to be "hate speech" are constitutionally protected under the First Amendment.

However, free speech is not without limits. For example, the University may restrict or discipline expression in a few instances, including speech that:

- incites imminent lawless action;
- defames a specific individual;
- rises to the level of harassment;
- or targets a specific individual or individuals with true threats of violence.

The University also may regulate the time, place, and manner of expression.

The University encourages those who wish to counter views they find unacceptable to do so in responsible ways, including:

- taking part in alternative events;
- lending their voices to causes with which they are aligned and that help foster a stronger community;
- or lawfully and actively protesting or speaking out if they desire.

The Addressing Bias: Rights, Responsibilities and Responses website, created in partnership with students, is intended to educate students, faculty, and staff on ways to use their voices thoughtfully and engage in critical dialogue on difficult topics.

Community members, including parents or families, may report incidents of bias or discrimination to the Report Bias website; to University Police or local police; to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (OEOA); or the Office of Ethics and Compliance.



## OFFICE OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT REPORTING AND RESPONSE (OSMRR)

- > 120 Boucke Building
- > (814) 867.0099
- > [titleix@psu.edu](mailto:titleix@psu.edu)
- > [titleix.psu.edu](http://titleix.psu.edu)

Penn State is committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination or harassment based on sex or gender. Resources are available to members of the University community to provide a prompt and effective response when such incidents occur. Behaviors that fall under policy AD-85 Title IX Sexual Harassment and AD-91 Discrimination and Harassment and Related Inappropriate Conduct include\*:

### Gender-based Harassment

Behavior consisting of physical or verbal conduct based on gender, sexual orientation, gender-stereotyping, perceived gender, or gender identity

### Sexual Harassment

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature

### Sexual Misconduct

Rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual exploitation, and other forms of non-consensual sexual activity

### Stalking

Repeatedly following, harassing, threatening, or intimidating including by telephone, mail, electronic communication, or social media

### Dating Violence

May include physical, emotional, verbal, and/or economic abuse

### Domestic Violence

May include physical, emotional, verbal, and/or economic abuse

### Retaliation

Adverse employment, academic, or other actions against anyone reporting or participating in an investigation of Title IX allegations

\*These are intended to serve as representative examples. For the full definitions of prohibited conduct and consent, and more information about reporting options and amnesty, please refer to the relevant policy.

### Amnesty

Penn State offers confidential and non-confidential reporting options for those who have become a victim of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking. The University strongly encourages students to report incidents violating this policy. Therefore, students who act responsibly by reporting information about sexual and/or gender-based harassment or misconduct typically will not face University disciplinary action for their own drug or alcohol possession or consumption in connection with the reported incident.

### Consent

Any sexual contact that occurs without consent violates Penn State's policy. Consent is a knowing, voluntary, and mutual decision among all participants to engage in sexual activity. Consent must be informed, freely given, and mutual.

### Reporting Options

Penn State offers a variety of confidential and non-confidential reporting options if you or a friend is the victim of sexual and gender-based harassment or sexual misconduct.

Student survivors, witnesses, and bystanders who report, in good faith, any incident of sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking will NOT be charged with an alcohol or drug violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

### Reporting Options (Confidential)

#### Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

- (814) 863.0395
- [studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling)

#### Gender Equity Center

- (814) 863.2027
- [studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity)

#### Centre Safe

- (814) 234.5050
- [centresafe.org](http://centresafe.org)

### Reporting Options (Non-Confidential)

#### OSMRR

- (814) 867.0099
- [titleix.psu.edu](http://titleix.psu.edu)

#### Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response

- (814) 863.0342
- [studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability](http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability)

#### University Police

- (814) 863.1111
- [police.psu.edu](http://police.psu.edu)

#### Activates Campus Response:

The Title IX coordinator oversees the University response, which includes providing resource information and discussion of procedural options

#### Local Law Enforcement

- 911

#### Accommodations/Interim remedies may be taken, including:

A no-contact order, classroom and housing adjustments, access to on-and-off campus support services

OSMRR may conduct an investigation or resolve the matter through an informal process. The University will review all relevant information and determine if the behavior violates the University's Code of Conduct

Learn more about campus, community, and University resources at [titleix.psu.edu](http://titleix.psu.edu)



# CAMPUS SAFETY

## Penn State University Police and Public Safety

- > Eisenhower Parking Deck
- > 911 or (814) 863.1111 (EMERGENCY)
- > (814) 865.1864 (NON-EMERGENCY)
- > [police.psu.edu](https://www.police.psu.edu)

Penn State police officers have full law enforcement authority and criminal investigative responsibility at 22 campuses, including University Park. Officers have the same authority as state and municipal police officers in Pennsylvania and are authorized to carry firearms and empowered to make arrests.

Penn State police officers are responsible for the protection of students, employees, and visitors at Penn State. Officers are also charged with the protection of life, property, and maintenance of order for campus as well as the enforcement of all Pennsylvania laws and University regulations.

University Police has specialized units, including:

- *Criminal investigations*
- *K-9*
- *Bike patrol*
- *Bomb technicians*
- *Drone unit*
- *Dispatching services*
- *Community oriented policing*
- *Student auxiliary officers*

The department consists of sworn police officers, supervisory staff, student auxiliary officers, and police dispatchers. These employees provide protection and service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Police officers are assigned to mobile, bicycle, and foot patrols. In addition to the full-time sworn staff, civilian staff and student auxiliary officers aid in fulfilling the mission. Student auxiliary officers are a uniformed student unit within University Police. Students are used most frequently for security services and special events.

## Reporting Crimes

- > Call 911
- > (814) 863.1111
- > [police.psu.edu/report-crime](https://www.police.psu.edu/report-crime)

Together we play a role in supporting safety on campus. We encourage students, staff, and visitors to report crimes immediately.

## Physical Security

- > [police.psu.edu/physical-security](https://www.police.psu.edu/physical-security)

The Office of Physical Security resides within University Police and provides professional security and fire alarm protection services to the University community consistent with the University's mission, culture, and resources to facilitate a safe and secure campus environment.

## Emergency Telephones

- > [police.psu.edu/emergency-phones](https://www.police.psu.edu/emergency-phones)

To assist with expedient reporting in emergency situations, emergency phones have been installed at various locations around campus. A direct line to University Police is available on these phones. There are two types of emergency phones that either require the user to either lift the receiver or push a red button. Once the phone is activated, it will immediately ring at the University Police Dispatch Center. The location will then be recorded, and necessary action will be taken.

## Safe Walk Program

- > (814) 865.WALK (9255)

The Safe Walk program is designed to provide walking accompaniment to students and employees who may feel unsafe walking alone on campus at night. Mobile transport may also be provided to augment the walking service, when appropriate. The Safe Walk program operates out of the Student Auxiliary unit. Uniformed student employees, who carry police radios, will walk students and employees from one on-campus location to another. Accompaniments are available from dusk to dawn 365 days a year. Please talk to your student about this program and encourage them to store the number on their cell phone.

## PSUAlert

- > X (formerly Twitter): @PSUAlertU
- > [psualert.psu.edu](https://www.psualert.psu.edu)

PSUAlert is an emergency notification service for Penn State students and employees that allows the University to send text and/or voice messages to cell phones in the event of an emergency. All students automatically receive PSUAlert messages at their Penn State email address. Encourage your student to add their cell phone number and other emergency contact information to PSUAlert. A student may also add parents' contact information.

## Emergency Planning and Procedures

- > [police.psu.edu/emergency-preparedness](https://www.police.psu.edu/emergency-preparedness)

University Police and Public Safety has plans to address emergencies through coordination with local agencies and organizations that could impact operations. These include plans for emergencies, such as power outages, inclement weather, acts of terrorism or aggression, and infectious diseases. As an ongoing process, these plans are updated to address necessary provisions for students and employees.

## Behavioral Threat Management

- > [btmt.psu.edu](https://www.btmt.psu.edu)

To enhance emergency preparedness and prevention efforts, Penn State has established a Behavioral Threat Management Team (BTMT). The objective of the BTMT is to systematically identify, evaluate, and manage potentially threatening situations, including persons of concern, at the University. The multidisciplinary team is composed of people from across the University.



# ALCOHOL LAWS IN PENNSYLVANIA

## Crime Prevention Programs

> [police.psu.edu/community-policing](https://police.psu.edu/community-policing)

The Community Oriented Policing Unit coordinates, develops, and delivers a variety of free relevant safety and crime prevention programs. Your student can contact University Police to request one of these programs for their group or organization.

## Crime Statistics

> [police.psu.edu/annual-security-reports](https://police.psu.edu/annual-security-reports)

Under Federal and State requirements, the University publishes an annual security report entitled "Policies, Safety, and U." This report contains crime statistics from the previous three years as well as other valuable information about safety and security at Penn State. The annual security report for each campus and each of the three previous years is available on the police website. Statistics are reported to the U.S. Department of Education website and the Pennsylvania State Police Uniform Crime Reporting website and are also available to the public on those sites.

Additionally, University Police maintains a daily log, which is open to public inspection, free of charge, during normal business hours in the University Police Records Office at University Support Building 1 or online at [police.psu.edu/daily-crime-log](https://police.psu.edu/daily-crime-log).

## Penn State's Active Attacker Response Program: Run, Hide, Fight™

> [police.psu.edu/run-hide-fight-surviving-active-attacker](https://police.psu.edu/run-hide-fight-surviving-active-attacker)

Based upon the Run, Hide, Fight™ model developed by the City of Houston, Penn State's Active Attacker Response Program offers the same three action steps if confronted with an active assailant, making it easy to remember and act upon in an emergency: run if you can, hide if you can't, and fight as a last resort. Participants who attend this program will learn how to prepare to respond to an active attacker situation.

> [legis.state.pa.us](https://legis.state.pa.us)

This is a general summary of several alcohol laws in Pennsylvania. For more details about each law and information about additional alcohol laws, visit the website above.

## Underage Drinking

The legal drinking age is 21. Underage drinking is illegal. It is illegal for anyone under 21 years of age to attempt to purchase, consume, possess, or knowingly and intentionally transport any liquor, malt, or brewed beverage. Penalties may include:

Penalty	Fine	Jail
1st Offense	0 - \$500	0 - 90 Days
2nd Offense	0 - \$1,000	0 - 90 Days
Additional Offense	0 - \$1,000	0 - 90 Days

By law, the State College Police Department and University Police are required to notify parents or guardians of all underage drinking violations. See Parent and Family Notification Policy on (page 47).

## Carrying False ID

It is illegal for anyone under 21 to possess an identification card falsely identifying that person by name, age, date of birth, or photograph as being 21 or older or obtain or attempt to obtain liquor, malt, or brewed beverage by using the identification card of another or by using an identification card that has not been lawfully issued to or in the name of the person who possesses the card.

Penalty	Fine	Jail
1st Offense	0 - \$300	0 - 90 Days
2nd Offense	0 - \$500	0 - 1 Year
Additional Offense	0 - \$500	0 - 1 Year

## Public Drunkenness

It is illegal to appear in any public place under the influence of alcohol to the degree that you may endanger yourself or other persons or property, or annoy others in your vicinity.

Penalty	Fine	Jail
1st Offense	0 - \$500	0 - 90 Days
2nd Offense	0 - \$1,000	0 - 90 Days
Additional Offense	0 - \$1,000	0 - 90 Days

## Furnishing Alcohol to Minors

It is illegal to knowingly sell, furnish, or purchase with the intent to sell or furnish, any liquor, malt, or brewed beverage to a person who is less than 21 years of age. You can be convicted of furnishing alcohol even if you are under age 21. The fine for a first offense is at least \$1,000 and the second or more is \$2,500. Jail is up to one year for all.

## Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

It is illegal for anyone under 21 to drive a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .02 or higher, and it is illegal for those 21 or older to drive with a blood alcohol content of .08 or higher. A first-time offense individual, under certain circumstances, may qualify for an Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD) program.

The following penalties may apply if a person between the ages of 18 and 21 is convicted of a DUI with a blood alcohol content below .16%:

1st Offense			
Fine	Jail	License Suspension	Other
\$500 - \$5,000	48 Hours - 6 Months	1 Year	Alcohol Highway Safety School  Court Reporting Network File
2nd Offense			
Fine	Jail	License Suspension	Other
\$750 - \$5,000	30 Days - 6 Months	1 Year	Alcohol Highway Safety School  Court Reporting Network File
3rd Offense			
Fine	Jail	License Suspension	Other
\$1,500 - \$10,000	90 Days - 1 Year	1.5 Years	Court Reporting Network File  Drug & Alcohol Evaluation
*Penalties differ based on age, blood alcohol content, and other factors. Penalties vary for individuals under 18.			

\*If a student is from a state other than PA and the home state is part of the national compact on DUI enforcement (46 states are), the student must fulfill these penalties in PA and his/her license from the home state will be suspended, if applicable.

# ALCOHOL LAWS IN PENNSYLVANIA

## Pennsylvania's Medical Amnesty Law

Pennsylvania law provides immunity from prosecution for underage drinking and/or hazing for an individual who seeks help for a friend who has a medical emergency due to underage alcohol consumption or hazing. The immunity also applies to the friend for whom medical assistance was sought. When a person violates underage drinking or hazing laws and calls 911 to get help for a peer who needs immediate medical attention due to excessive alcohol consumption or hazing, the caller and the peer for whom assistance was sought will not be charged with underage drinking or hazing as long as:

- *That persons' phone call was the initial way law enforcement found out about the hazing and/or underage person's drinking violation*
- *The caller reasonably believed they were the first to call and report the emergency*
- *The person correctly identified themselves by name when reporting the emergency*
- *The person remained with the individual needing medical assistance until emergency services arrived*

Pennsylvania Law (2014 Act 139) also provides immunity from prosecution from drug-related charges when an individual seeks help for themselves or another individual for a drug-related medical emergency.

## STATE COLLEGE, PA ORDINANCES

> [statecollegepa.us](http://statecollegepa.us)

### Open Container Ordinance

It is illegal to have an open container of alcohol in any public parking lot or public parking garage, public street, public sidewalk, public alley, or public park in State College. Violations result in fines of not less than \$250 for the first offense; \$500 for the second offense; and not less than \$1,000 for any subsequent offenses in any 120 day period plus court costs; or 30 days in prison if fines and costs are not paid.

### Public Urination and Defecation Ordinance

It is illegal to urinate or defecate in/on a public place, private property where the public is admitted, and private property without the consent of the owner. It is illegal to urinate or defecate in any public place other than in an appropriate sanitary facility and a separate offense to fail to clean, remove, or dispose of it properly. Violations are summary offenses with a fine of not less than \$750 for the first offense and \$1,000 for any subsequent offense plus court costs for each violation.

## MARIJUANA LAWS

### State College Marijuana Ordinance

The laws regarding marijuana possession on campus differ from those in State College. A State College Borough Ordinance gives police officers the option to charge an individual with summary offenses, instead of misdemeanor offenses, for possession of a small amount of marijuana, and possession of marijuana paraphernalia within the Borough of State College. The definition of marijuana paraphernalia is more limited under the Borough ordinance than it is under Pennsylvania law.

Fines range from \$250 to \$350. State College Police still have the option to charge marijuana and paraphernalia use and possession as misdemeanor offenses.

Because Penn State receives federal funding the University Police must still follow federal and state laws that consider marijuana and paraphernalia use and possession a misdemeanor when such use or possession occurs on campus.

Students using or possessing marijuana on or off campus are also subject to disciplinary sanctions from the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response. Code of Conduct sanctions are separate from any legal charges and can be generated whether a student receives a summary offense, state, or federal charges.

### Possession of Marijuana

It is unlawful for a person to knowingly, or intentionally possess marijuana (Hashish), a Schedule I substance.

Persons engaged in such activity will most likely face criminal charges and a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The charges for marijuana possession include:

Quantity	Charge	Jail Time	Fine
30 Grams or Less	Misdemeanor	30 Days	0 - \$500
Over 30 Grams	Misdemeanor	1 Year	0 - \$5,000

### Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

It is unlawful for a person to use or possess, with the intent to use, drug paraphernalia that is used for packaging, manufacturing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance in violation of the Controlled Substances, Drugs, Device and Cosmetic Act of 1972.

### Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Act

Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Act went into effect on May 17, 2016. However, marijuana in any form remains a prohibited controlled substance under federal law, and therefore the possession, cultivation, and use by individuals remain illegal under federal law. The Pennsylvania Medical Marijuana Act conflicts with federal criminal laws governing controlled substances, as well as federal laws requiring institutions receiving federal funds, by grant or contract, to maintain drug-free campuses and workplaces. Penn State receives federal funding that would be in jeopardy if those federal laws did not take precedence over state law. The use, possession, and distribution of cannabis continues to violate applicable University policies. This includes medicinal marijuana (or medicinal cannabis) and synthetically-derived cannabis products such as Delta-8 and Delta-10. FDA-approved drugs (e.g., Marinol®, Syndros®, and Epidolex®) are permitted with a valid prescription. Any student or employee who violates such policies may be subject to disciplinary action.

# ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES POLICY IN THE RESIDENCE HALLS

> [liveon.psu.edu/universitypark/terms-conditions](https://liveon.psu.edu/universitypark/terms-conditions)

## Alcohol

- 1.** The possession or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all University Housing, including undergraduate students living in University apartments, for students of any age.
- 2.** It is a violation of Pennsylvania state law, local municipality, and/or University policy for a student under 21 years of age to attempt to purchase, consume, possess, or transport alcoholic beverages. It is unlawful to sell, furnish, or give to any minor, or permit that alcoholic beverages be sold, furnished, or given to any minor.
- 3.** It is against University policy for there to be any tailgating activities held within the residential quad areas or residence hall parking lots where alcoholic beverages are being served on any football game/event weekend, including all home football games, Football Eve, 4th Fest, Arts Festival, and Blue and White Weekend. Students tailgating with alcoholic beverages in these defined areas will be confronted and will likely be charged with an "open containers in an unauthorized area" violation.
- 4.** A student will be held responsible for activities that occur in their room and will be referred to Residence Life, the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response (OSACR), and/or University Police if guests are violating the on-campus alcohol policy in this provision.
- 5.** Failure to comply with the direction given by or the request to present identification, or supplying false information such as name, age, etc., to a University official acting in the performance of their job duties is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and will result in a referral to Residence Life and/or the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response (OSACR).
- 6.** If your student is prescribed medical marijuana, please reach out to the Residence Life or Housing offices before moving into a residential space as possession of marijuana on campus is not permitted.

## Illegal Substances (Drugs)

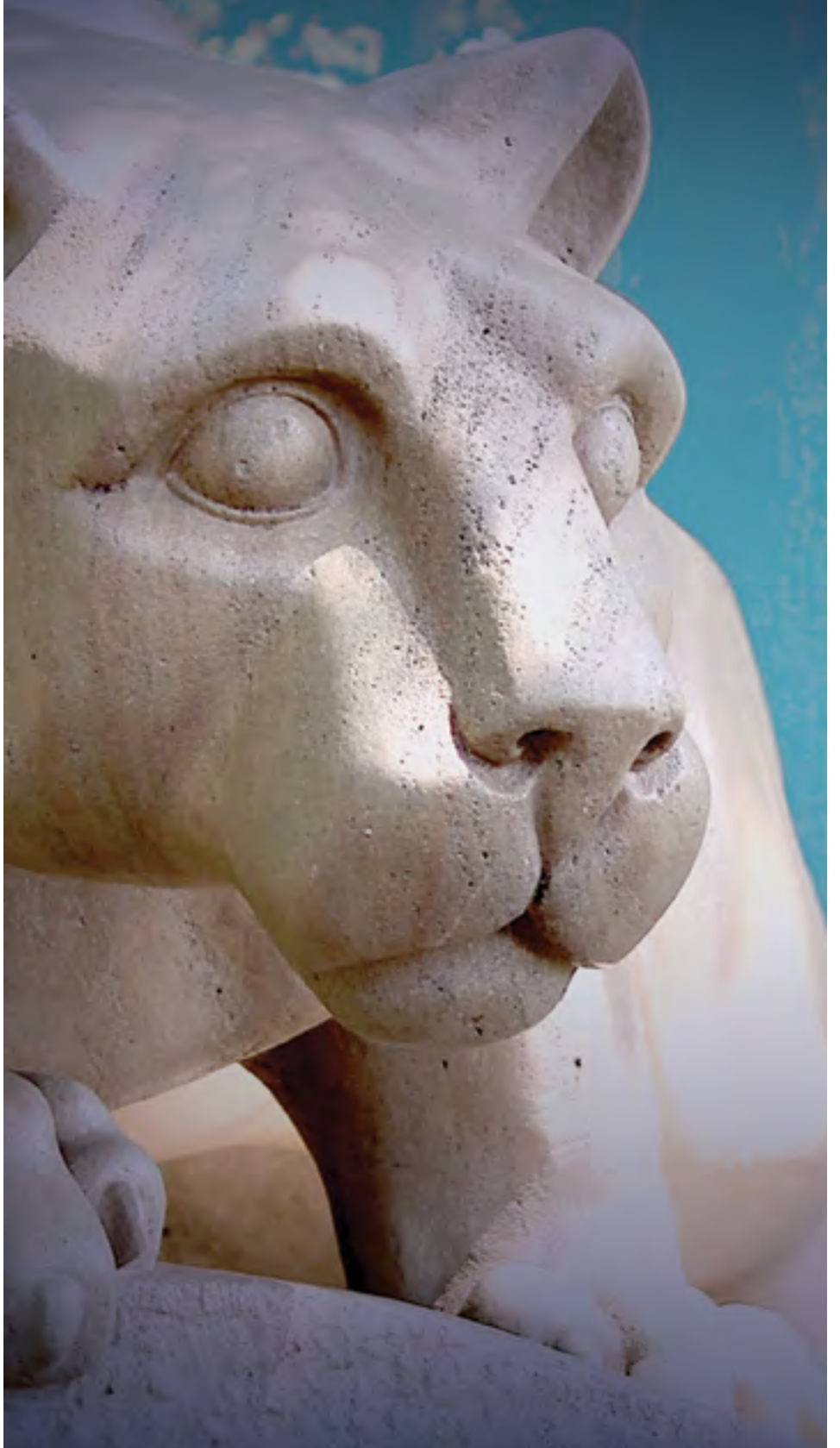
- 1.** It is a violation of Pennsylvania state law, local municipality, and/or University policy to possess, distribute, manufacture, or sell illegal drugs. Medical marijuana is not permitted to be used on University property.
- 2.** It is against University policy for a student to be under the influence of an illegal substance or to be in a residential area (room, common area, common building, building entryway, or quad area within residence area complex) and in the presence of an illegal substance.
- 3.** If a student violates these laws or policies or is caught in the presence of an illegal substance, the student will be referred to Residence Life, the Office of Student Accountability and Conflict Response (OSACR), and/or University Police.

## No Smoking Policy

The University promotes a smoke-free environment. The use of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping devices, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, all nicotine delivery devices, and other tobacco products are not permitted on campus, including University housing and commons buildings.



# UNIVERSITY RESOURCES



- > [Getting Around Campus](#)
- > [Getting Out of Town](#)
- > [Area Lodging](#)
- > [University Resources](#)
- > [Talk Like a Penn Stater](#)

# TRANSPORTATION, PARKING, AND VISITING CAMPUS

## Getting Around Campus

Campus is a large place, but students can get around easily by walking, biking, or catching no-fare, on-campus/downtown buses, and shuttles.

## Campus and Community Buses

- > [catabus.com](https://catabus.com)
- > [transportation.psu.edu/campus-shuttle](https://transportation.psu.edu/campus-shuttle)

The Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) provides frequent, no-fare campus/downtown service via the Loop and Link routes. Penn State also operates no-fare Campus Shuttle routes that serve campus and downtown stops, including areas not served by CATA, such as The Arboretum, Mount Nittany Medical Center, and Innovation Park. Additional CATABUS routes connect the campus with outlying communities, shopping centers, and businesses. These routes require a fare and students can pay with cash, bus token, or a long-term pass.

## Late Night – Safe Walk and Ride Smart by Lyft Programs

- > (814) 865.WALK (9255)
- > [transportation.psu.edu/late-night](https://transportation.psu.edu/late-night)

The Safe Walk Program offered by University Police and Public Safety is designed to provide walking accompaniment for Penn State students, employees, and visitors who may feel unsafe walking alone on campus at night.

The Penn State Ride Smart by Lyft Program offers University Park students eight \$10 Lyft ride credits each month to use for rides to campus from downtown and select surrounding neighborhoods from 2:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. nightly during the fall and spring semesters.

## Bicycles

- > [biking.psu.edu](https://biking.psu.edu)
- > [spin.app](https://spin.app)

Local policy requires that all bikes be registered to assist local authorities when bicycles are abandoned, lost, or when stolen bikes are recovered. Registration is free and available online. University Park was recently named a gold-level Bicycle Friendly University by the League of American Bicyclists and offers more than 800 racks for parking, multiple repair stations, and free workshops and clinics at the Bike Den, a new DIY bike repair and community space located at the West Deck. Spin electric-assist bikes are also available to rent (using the app) across campus and downtown.

## Skateboards, Scooters, and Skates

- > [policy.psu.edu/policies/sy16](https://policy.psu.edu/policies/sy16)

The use of skateboards on campus is prohibited. Human powered roller skates, in-line skates, scooters including medical sleds, and small coasting devices are prohibited on roadways.

## Student Parking

- > [transportation.psu.edu/student-parking](https://transportation.psu.edu/student-parking)

Students who have completed at least 29.1 approved credits are eligible to purchase resident or long-term parking on campus. Commuter parking is available for off-campus students who wish to park on campus for class and other activities. There is no minimum credit requirement for on-campus parking during summer session, and parking may be available to first-year students after Thanksgiving if space is available.

## Visitor Parking

- > (814) 865.1436
- > [parking@psu.edu](mailto:parking@psu.edu)
- > [transportation.psu.edu/visitors](https://transportation.psu.edu/visitors)

Planning a campus visit? On most days, parking is available for a small hourly charge at the East, HUB, Nittany, and West parking decks. Paid parking is also available at the Jordan East, Stadium West, and Porter North lots near the Bryce Jordan Center, Intercollegiate Athletics, and other select lots on campus. However, parking rules and rates change during student arrival, football game weekends, and other special events, such as Parents and Families Weekend. Visitors can reserve parking for most Bryce Jordan Center, Intercollegiate Athletic, and other select events through the ParkMobile app.

## Getting Out of Town

- > [studentaffairs.psu.edu/parents-families/resources](https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/parents-families/resources)

## Buses

Greyhound, Fullington, College Break Bus, Our Bus, and Megabus provide service from State College to cities including Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, New York City, Baltimore, and Washington DC. Greyhound and Fullington pick-up and drop-off at the bus station located close to campus on Atherton Street. Megabus has a stop in the parking lot of the Walmart Shopping Center on North Atherton Street, approximately 2.5 miles from campus. Seats fill fast during peak travel time, such as Fridays, holidays, and semester breaks. In addition, the College Break Bus runs chartered buses during semester breaks. Making reservations as early as possible is recommended.

## Air Travel

The State College Regional Airport (SCE) is located approximately six miles north of campus. Commercial air service is provided by American Airlines and United. Many students choose to fly out of airports outside of the University Park area.

## Trains

The nearest stations to campus are at least 30 minutes away in Lewistown, Tyrone, Huntingdon, and Altoona. Amtrak offers bus services to some stations from the Atherton Street bus terminal. Transportation to and from these stations is not offered by CATA or the University.

## Ride Matching and Trip Planning

- > [rideon.psu.edu](https://rideon.psu.edu)

RideOn is a free ride-matching and trip-planning platform available exclusively to Penn State students, faculty, and staff to help get to, from, and around campus. Users can find ride matches for one-time trips and daily carpooling based on their destination and schedule and see carpool, public transportation, and biking options in one convenient platform to help plan their journey.

## AREA LODGING

- > [happyvalley.com](https://happyvalley.com)

Planning a visit with your student? Area hotels fill up quickly during busy weekends such as Parents and Families Weekend, home football games, and graduation. The Happy Valley Adventure Bureau can help connect you with resources.

## Other Lodging Options

On some weekends, you may need to look outside of the local area. Bellefonte, Lewistown, Lamar, and Altoona offer more options within a 10-45 minute drive to campus. There are also non-traditional options including Airbnb, StateCations, VRBO, and Rent Like a Champion that offer private homes for rent.

# UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Resource	Website	Phone Number	Page
Campus Map	map.psu.edu		BACK
Penn State Operator	psu.edu/contact-us	(814) 865.4700	
Parents Program	parents.psu.edu	(814) 863.1313	4
Penn State Alumni Association	alumni.psu.edu	(800) 548.5466	32
<b>Academic Life</b>			
Division of Undergraduate Studies	dus.psu.edu	(814) 865.7576	13
Educational Equity	equity.psu.edu	(814) 865.5906	18
Multicultural Resource Center	equity.psu.edu/mrc	(814) 865.1773	18
Penn State Bookstore	psu.bncollege.com	(814) 863.0205	18
Penn State Global	global.psu.edu	(814) 865.7681	18
Penn State Learning	pennstatelearning.psu.edu	(814) 865.2582	18
Schreyer Honors College	shc.psu.edu	(814) 863.2635	13
Student Disability Resources	equity.psu.edu/sdr	(814) 863.1807	19
Student Orientation and Transition Programs	orientation.psu.edu	(814) 865.4178	14
Summer Session / LEAP	summersession.psu.edu	(814) 863.4174	18
University Libraries	libraries.psu.edu	(814) 865.6368	19
Undergraduate Research and Fellowships Mentoring	urfm.psu.edu	(814) 863.8199	19
Veterans Programs	equity.psu.edu/veterans	(814) 863.0465	18
<b>Money Matters &amp; Technology</b>			
Bursar	bursar.psu.edu	(814) 865.6528	21
id+ Office	idcard.psu.edu	(814) 865.7590	25
Penn State IT	it.psu.edu	(814) 863.3746	26
Registrar	registrar.psu.edu	(814) 865.6357	23
Software at Penn State	software.psu.edu	(814) 863.7777	26
Student Aid	studentaid.psu.edu	(814) 865.6301	22
<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>			
Penn State Crisis Line (24/7)		(877) 229.6400	42
Non-Emergencies: University Police	police.psu.edu	(814) 865.1864	48
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)	studentaffairs.psu.edu/counseling	(814) 863.0395	42
Emergencies: Ambulance, Fire, Police		911 or (814) 863.1111	
Health Promotion and Wellness	studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-promotion	(814) 863.0461	43
Mount Nittany Medical Center	mountnittany.org	(814) 231.7000	
Office of Sexual Misconduct Reporting and Response	titleix.psu.edu	(814) 867.0099	47
Student Accountability and Conflict Response	studentaffairs.psu.edu/student-accountability	(814) 863.0342	46
Student Health Insurance	studentaffairs.psu.edu/health-wellness/health-insurance	(814) 865.4847	41
University Health Services	studentaffairs.psu.edu/health	(814) 865.4847	39

<b>Campus Life</b>			
Adult Learner Programs	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/adults">studentaffairs.psu.edu/adults</a>	(814) 863.7378	29
Athletic Ticket Office	<a href="http://gopsusports.com/tickets">gopsusports.com/tickets</a>	(800) 648.8269	32
Bryce Jordan Center	<a href="http://bjc.psu.edu">bjc.psu.edu</a>	(814) 865-5555	32
Campus Recreation	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/campusrec">studentaffairs.psu.edu/campusrec</a>	(814) 867.1600	30
Career Services	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/career">studentaffairs.psu.edu/career</a>	(814) 865.2377	30
Center for the Performing Arts	<a href="http://cpa.psu.edu">cpa.psu.edu</a>	(814) 863.0255	32
Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd">studentaffairs.psu.edu/csgd</a>	(814) 863.1248	29
Center for Spiritual and Ethical Development	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/spiritual">studentaffairs.psu.edu/spiritual</a>	(814) 865.6548	29
Food Services	<a href="http://liveon.psu.edu/university-park/dining">liveon.psu.edu/university-park/dining</a>	(814) 863.1255	36
Fraternity and Sorority Life	<a href="http://greeks.psu.edu">greeks.psu.edu</a>	(814) 863.8065	31
Gender Equity Center	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity">studentaffairs.psu.edu/genderequity</a>	(814) 863.2027	29
Housing	<a href="http://liveon.psu.edu/university-park">liveon.psu.edu/university-park</a>	(814) 865-7501	33
HUB-Robeson Center	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub">studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub</a>	(814) 863.9755	31
Off-Campus Student Support	<a href="http://livingoffcampus.psu.edu">livingoffcampus.psu.edu</a>	(814) 865.2346	37
Paul Robeson Cultural Center	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural">studentaffairs.psu.edu/cultural</a>	(814) 865.3776	29
Residence Life	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife">studentaffairs.psu.edu/reslife</a>	(814) 863.1710	35
Student Care and Advocacy	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/studentcare">studentaffairs.psu.edu/studentcare</a>	(814) 863.2020	30
Student Engagement Network	<a href="http://engage.psu.edu">engage.psu.edu</a>		31
Student Leadership and Involvement	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/get-involved">studentaffairs.psu.edu/get-involved</a>	(814) 863.4624	32
Student Legal Services	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices">studentaffairs.psu.edu/legalservices</a>	(814) 867.4388	30
Timothy J. Piazza Center for Fraternity and Sorority Research	<a href="http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/piazzacenter">studentaffairs.psu.edu/piazzacenter</a>	(814) 865.7000	32
<b>University Resources</b>			
Parking Office	<a href="http://transportation.psu.edu">transportation.psu.edu</a>	(814) 865.1436	53
Penn State Parents Fund	<a href="http://giveto.psu.edu/parentsfund">giveto.psu.edu/parentsfund</a>	(814) 865.6533	4, 60
Visitors Bureau	<a href="http://happyvalley.com">happyvalley.com</a>	(800) 358.5466	53





## TALK LIKE A PENN STATER

### **ARHS (Association of Residence Hall Students)**

Student representatives for all students living on campus

### **Be a Part from the Start**

Pep rally hosted for new students at the beginning of each fall semester

### **Blue and White Loop**

Free CATABUS routes that run in a continuous loop around campus and the downtown community

### **BJC (Bryce Jordan Center)**

Entertainment and athletic facility that hosts events and is home to Penn State men's and women's basketball

### **Canvas**

The online learning management system for students to manage, navigate, and access their courses

### **CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services)**

Counseling and other services to support student wellness

### **CATA (Centre Area Transportation Authority)**

Local bus system that operates throughout State College and campus

### **Commonwealth Campuses**

Penn State's campuses located throughout Pennsylvania

### **The Creamery (The Berkey Creamery)**

Penn State's very own, on-campus creamery

### **HUB (Hetzel Union Building)**

Home to several eateries, study areas, student clubs and activities, meeting spaces, the Penn State Bookstore, and art galleries

### **IM Building**

Campus Recreation's flagship fitness facility located near East Halls

### **LEAP (Leading Edge Academic Program)**

Summer program for incoming students combines small, cohort-based courses and mentoring

### **LionCash**

Online, prepaid flexible spending account accessed by your student's Penn State id+ card

### **LionPATH**

Student information system for students to register for classes, check grades, and pay bills

### **MRC (Multicultural Resource Center)**

Provides individual counseling and educational services for undergraduate multicultural students

### **Nat (McCoy Natatorium)**

Indoor and outdoor pool

### **Nittany Lion Shrine**

Large limestone statue representing Penn State's famous mascot

### **NSO (New Student Orientation)**

Two-day program to introduce first-year students to academic and campus life

### **Penn State Go App**

All-in-one app includes Canvas, email, campus maps, LionPATH, LionCash, dining, safety, library services, Starfish, Penn State Eats, and more

### **Penn State Learning**

Offers free trained peer tutors, study groups, and encouraging learning environment, and technology tools to enhance academic success

### **PRCC (Paul Robeson Cultural Center)**

Provides programs and services that encourage the appreciation of diverse perspectives, experiences, and cultures

### **RA (Resident Assistant)**

Specially trained student employees who live in the residence halls and support residents

### **Rec Hall (Recreation Hall)**

Home of many athletic events and the Hepper Fitness Center

### **Red Link**

Free CATABUS route that runs in a continuous, cross-campus link between west and east campus

### **ResLife (Office of Residence Life)**

Creates living-learning environments, programs, and services for residence hall students

### **SHIP (Student Health Insurance Plan)**

Low-cost, comprehensive health insurance

### **SPA (Student Programming Association)**

Student organization providing entertainment, events, and diverse activities for little or no charge

### **Starfish**

A suite of academic advising tools and online scheduling of advising appointments

### **THON (Penn State Dance Marathon)**

Largest student-run fundraising event benefitting childhood cancer culminating in a no-sitting, no-sleeping, 46-hour dance marathon held in February

### **UHS (University Health Services)**

Student primary care health center offering medical services, prescriptions, testing, educational programs, and more

### **UP (University Park)**

One of 20 undergraduate campuses of Penn State located in State College, PA

### **UPUA (University Park Undergraduate Association)**

Student government for the University Park campus

### **WE ARE!**

Chant that unites Penn State

### **Welcome Week**

Campus-wide programming designed to welcome students at the beginning of each semester

# Sweet Treats

FOR ANY OCCASION

Order cookies, cakes, or desserts delivered  
to your student's housing area  
commons desk or shipped  
nationwide to your  
favorite Penn Stater.

Use promo code **FAMILY24**  
and save 10% off your order.



# BANKING FOR THIS STAGE OF YOUR STUDENT'S LIFE. AND BUDGET.



LINK YOUR PENN STATE ID+ CARD TO YOUR PNC ACCOUNT(S) AND USE IT TO GET FEE-FREE ACCESS TO YOUR CASH AT MORE THAN 60,000 PNC AND PARTNER ATMS, AS INDICATED ON [PNC.COM/LOCATOR](https://pnc.com/locator).<sup>1</sup>

## PNC Student Banking helps students make the most of their time and money.

### VIRTUAL WALLET STUDENT<sup>®</sup>

Checking and savings combined, plus online financial education resources to help your student manage money today and build financial skills for a lifetime

- No monthly service charge for 6 years from the date of account opening<sup>2</sup>
- Digital tools to plan and track spending, establish a budget, set alerts and save toward their goals
- As a PNC customer, you can access your money fee-free at more than 60,000 PNC and Partner ATMs across the country, as listed on our ATM locator.<sup>3</sup>

### LOW CASH MODE<sup>®</sup> IN THE PNC MOBILE APP<sup>4</sup>

Game-changing technology to help students avoid overdraft fees

- **EXTRA TIME** — at least 24 hours to bring their available Spend account balance to at least zero to avoid overdraft fees<sup>5</sup>
- **INTELLIGENT ALERTS** — set up alerts so that if the Spend account balance gets too low, they'll be notified to take action.<sup>6</sup>
- **PAYMENT CONTROL** — gives students the option to pay or return certain individual checks, and payments made using the routing and checking account numbers (ACH transactions)<sup>7</sup> when the balance is negative

### ONLINE FINANCIAL EDUCATION

PNC My Finance Academy provides anytime access to articles, podcasts, information and insights on a wide range of topics that can help students build a strong understanding of finances and better manage their money — today and for a lifetime.



Visit [pnc.com/psu](https://pnc.com/psu) to learn more.



<sup>1</sup> Partner ATMs are not owned by PNC, and may be limited to cash withdrawal functionality.

<sup>2</sup> Virtual Wallet Student has no minimum balance requirement or monthly service charge for active students for 6 years from the date of account opening. You may be asked to provide proof of active enrollment in a qualifying educational institution. At the end of the 6 years, your account will be converted to Virtual Wallet and subject to the Virtual Wallet Features and Fees in effect at that time. If you transfer this account to a different product or account type during the first 6 years, you will forfeit the benefits of the Virtual Wallet Student account and will not be able to transfer back to the Virtual Wallet Student account.

<sup>3</sup> Visit [pnc.com/locator](https://pnc.com/locator) to find a PNC or PNC Partner ATM near you where PNC customers can access money fee-free.

<sup>4</sup> PNC does not charge a fee for Mobile Banking. However, third-party message and data rates may apply. These include fees your wireless carrier may charge you for data usage and text messaging services. Check with your wireless carrier for details regarding your specific wireless plan and any data usage or text messaging charges that may apply. Also, a supported mobile device is needed to use the Mobile Banking app. Mobile Deposit is a feature of PNC Mobile Banking. Use of the Mobile Deposit feature requires a supported camera-equipped device and you must download a PNC mobile banking app. Eligible PNC Bank account and PNC Bank Online Banking required. Certain other restrictions apply. See the mobile banking terms and conditions in the PNC Online Banking Service Agreement.

<sup>5</sup> In order to avoid overdraft fees, you must bring the available balance in your Account to at least \$0 before your Extra Time expires. If you make a deposit, the time it takes for your deposit to be reflected in your available balance and for those funds to become available to you will vary based on the deposit type and time. Depending on your deposit type or your deposit time, your deposit may not be available before your Extra Time period expires, and you may incur overdraft fees. See your Funds Availability policy for more information. Overdrawing an account, maintaining a negative available balance for any period of time, and returning transactions as unpaid may have other consequences, including account closure or negative impacts to your ability to obtain financial services including loans, deposit accounts, and other services at PNC and other institutions.

<sup>6</sup> PNC Alerts are free to customers. However, third-party message and data rates may apply. These include fees your wireless carrier may charge you for data usage and text messaging services. Check with your wireless carrier for details regarding your specific wireless plan and any data usage or text messaging charges that may apply.

<sup>7</sup> Payment Control applies to check transactions, or payments made using your PNC Bank routing and checking account numbers (ACH transactions). Debit card transactions do not qualify for Payment Control when your account balance becomes negative. When you choose to return an Item that has been presented to PNC for payment, we will return the Item to the payee's bank for insufficient funds, and the payee will not receive payment from PNC. You may still have an obligation to pay the payee for goods, services or other products. PNC is not responsible for satisfying any obligations between you and the payee or any other party with respect to an Item you decide to return. Before choosing to return an Item, you should consider rules the payee may have or actions the payee may take on late/returned payments. Overdrawing an account, maintaining a negative available balance for any period of time, and returning transactions as unpaid may have other consequences, including account closure or negative impacts to your ability to obtain financial services including loans, deposit accounts, and other services at PNC and other institutions.

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# Thank you!

Your gifts to the Parents Fund support the programs that support us.

For more information or to give online, visit [giveto.psu.edu/parents](http://giveto.psu.edu/parents) or contact:  
Colleen Sherman  
Parent Philanthropy  
[colleen@psu.edu](mailto:colleen@psu.edu)  
814-863-2477



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You've always been there for your student, don't stop now.

Join Advocate Penn State to become an advocate for your Penn State student!



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Advocate PennState

## PENN STATE PRIDE RUNS IN THE FAMILY



Show it with a family membership in the Penn State Alumni Association.



Money-saving discounts



Access to your local chapter



News and information to keep you connected



Blue & White Society membership for your student



Exclusive alumni networking opportunities

Join today to gain access to these benefits and more at [alumni.psu.edu/family](http://alumni.psu.edu/family)



PennState Alumni Association

# MAKE THE MONEY SIDE OF COLLEGE EASIER TO MANAGE.



LINK YOUR PENN STATE ID+ CARD TO YOUR PNC ACCOUNT(S) AND USE IT TO GET FEE-FREE ACCESS TO YOUR CASH AT MORE THAN 60,000 PNC AND PARTNER ATMs, AS INDICATED ON [PNC.COM/LOCATOR](https://pnc.com/locator).<sup>1</sup>

## Discover PNC Virtual Wallet Student<sup>®</sup>

- No monthly service charge for up to 6 years<sup>2</sup>
- Easy-to-use digital tools to budget, track and plan spending
- The control to help avoid overdraft fees with Low Cash Mode<sup>®</sup> in the PNC Mobile app<sup>3,4</sup>
- Online education resources to help build money skills for today and a lifetime

Visit [pnc.com/psu](https://pnc.com/psu) to learn more.



<sup>1</sup> Partner ATMs are not owned by PNC, and may be limited to cash withdrawal functionality.

<sup>2</sup> Virtual Wallet Student has no minimum balance requirement or monthly service charge for active students for 6 years from the date of account opening. You may be asked to provide proof of active enrollment in a qualifying educational institution. At the end of the 6 years, your account will be converted to Virtual Wallet and subject to the Virtual Wallet Features and Fees in effect at that time. If you transfer this account to a different product or account type during the first 6 years, you will forfeit the benefits of the Virtual Wallet Student account and will not be able to transfer back to the Virtual Wallet Student account.

<sup>3</sup> Low Cash Mode is only available on the Spend account of your Virtual Wallet product.

<sup>4</sup> A supported mobile device is needed to use Mobile Banking. Standard message and data rates may apply.

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# CHECK OFF YOUR COLLEGE BANKING NEEDS WITH VIRTUAL WALLET STUDENT<sup>®</sup>

- \$0 MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE FOR UP TO 6 YEARS<sup>1</sup>
- \$0 MINIMUM MONTHLY BALANCE
- 60,000 PNC AND PARTNER ATMS<sup>2</sup>
- FREE FINANCIAL EDUCATION

APPLY FOR VIRTUAL WALLET STUDENT TODAY

- See us when we're on campus
- Visit [pnc.com/psu](https://pnc.com/psu)
- Find your nearest PNC branch at Lower level, HUB-Robeson, 122 E. College Ave., or visit [pnc.com/locator](https://pnc.com/locator)



<sup>1</sup> Virtual Wallet Student has no minimum balance requirement or monthly service charge for active students for six years from the date of account opening. You may be asked to provide proof of active enrollment in a qualifying educational institution. At the end of the six years, your account will be converted to Virtual Wallet and subject to the Virtual Wallet features and fees in effect at that time. If you transfer this account to a different product or account type during the first six years, you will forfeit the benefits of the Virtual Wallet Student account and will not be able to transfer back to the Virtual Wallet Student account.

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# Make Penn State part of your summer plans.

**STAY ON TRACK** for graduation.

**GET AHEAD** to graduate early.

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Three summer sessions (**Maymester**, **Summer Session I**, and **Summer Session II**) and the availability of online courses give you the flexibility to make summer work for you.

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[summersession.psu.edu](http://summersession.psu.edu)  
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*Additional real-time third party apps are also available*

## NOTES



Visit our branches on the Lower Level of the HUB-Robeson Building or at 122 E. College Avenue

Learn more about our Student Banking program at [pnc.com/psu](http://pnc.com/psu)

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# PennState

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

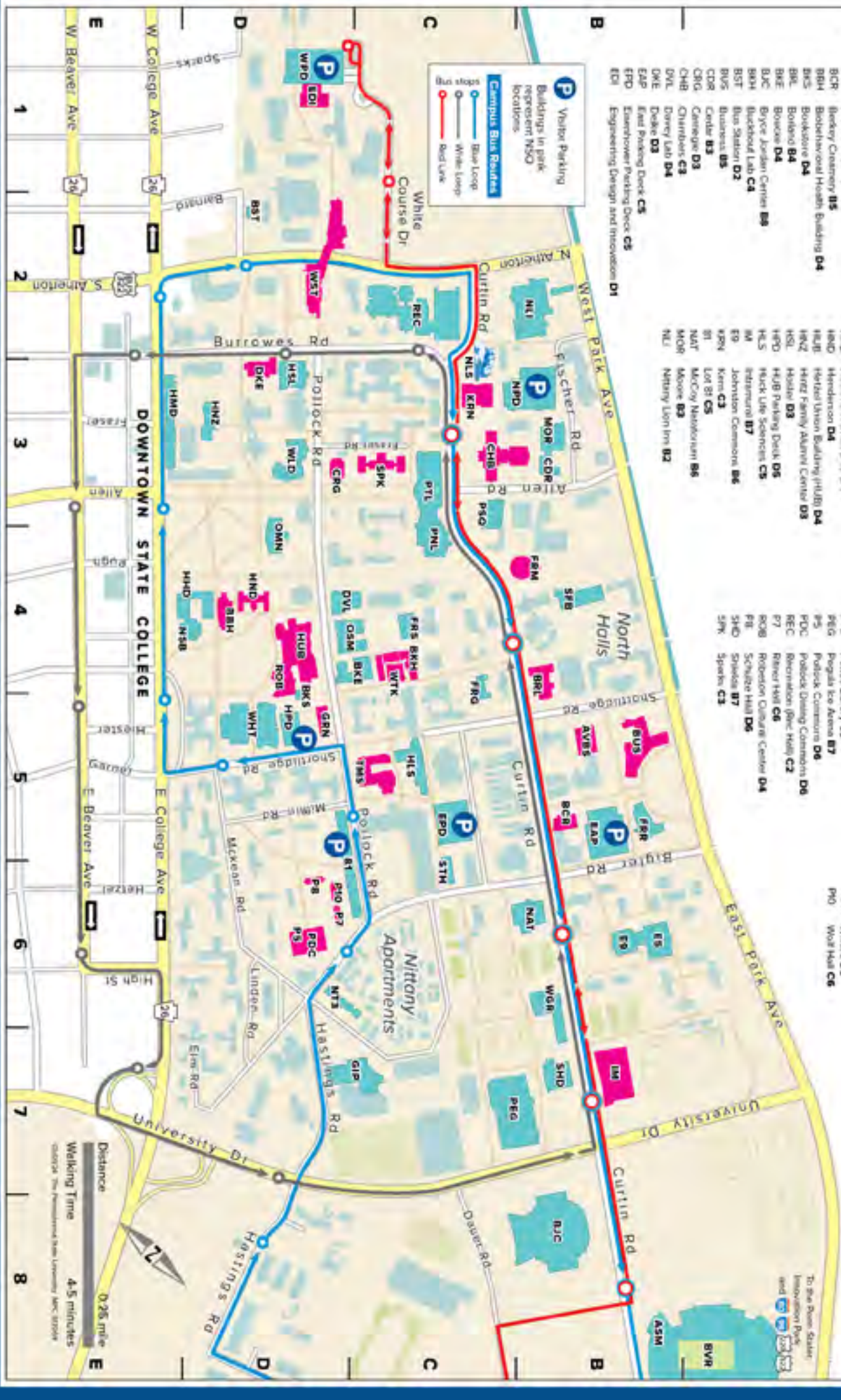
- A** AVBS Annual, Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences Building **B5**
- BVR Beaver Stadium **A8**
- BVR Beechey Creamery **B5**
- BWH Biobehavioral Health Building **D4**
- BKS Bookstore **D4**
- BKE Bookstore **D4**
- BUC Bryce Jordan Center **B8**
- BWH Biobehavioral Health Building **D4**
- BST Bus Station **D2**
- BUS Business **B5**
- CDR Center **B3**
- CRG Center **D3**
- CHB Chubb's **C3**
- DNL Dorsey Lab **D4**
- DKE Deike **D3**
- EAP East Parking Deck **C5**
- EPD Esplanade Parking Deck **C5**
- EDI Engineering Design and Innovation **D1**
- FRG Ferguson **C4**
- ES Findley Commons **B6**
- FRR Forest Resources **B5**
- FRM Forum **B4**
- FRS Free South **C4**
- GRN George **D5**
- GRP Gateway Complex **C7**
- HND Henshaw **E3**
- HND Health & Human Dev **D4**
- HND Henderson **D4**
- HUB Harter Union Building (HUB) **D4**
- HNF Harter Family Alumni Center **D3**
- HSL Hostler **D3**
- HFD HUB Parking Deck **D5**
- HLS Huck Life Sciences **C5**
- IM International **B7**
- EG Johnson Commons **B6**
- KRN Kern **C3**
- ST Lot B1 **C5**
- NAT McCoy Neoleonium **B6**
- MOR Moore **B3**
- NLU Nitony Lion Inn **B2**
- NLS Nitony Lion Square **C2**
- NTS Nitony Hall **D6**
- NPD Nitony Parking Deck **B3**
- NSB Nursing Sciences Bldg **D4**
- OMN Old Main **D4**
- OSM O'Connell Lab **D4**
- PSO Penn State Spirituality Center **C3**
- PNL Paterno Library **C4**
- PTL Patro Library **C2**
- PEG Pegasus Arena **B7**
- PDG Podrick Commons **D6**
- POC Podrick Dining Commons **D6**
- REC Recreation (Rec Hall) **C2**
- P7 Riker Hall **C6**
- RCB Roberson Climate Center **D4**
- FB Schaefer Hill **D6**
- SHD Schaefer **B7**
- SPK Spunk **C3**
- SM South Road District **B3**
- SFB Soudeman Family Building **B4**
- STM Student Health Center **C5**
- TMS Thomas **C5**
- WTK Wink Lab **C4**
- WPD West Parking Deck **D1**
- WST Westgate **D2**
- WHT White **D6**
- WLD Wilford **D3**
- WHD Wolf Hall **C6**

**P** Visitor Parking

Buildings in pink represent NSO locations.

**Bus Routes**

- Blue Loop
- White Loop
- Red Loop



Distance 0.25 mile

Walking Time 4-5 minutes

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